

## 2026 South Dakota Legislature

**Senate Bill 160****AMENDMENT 160C  
FOR THE INTRODUCED BILL**

1 **An Act to require the registration of fishing guides.**

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

3 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 41-6:**

4 An individual may not, for consideration, provide fishing guide services without  
5 annually registering as a guide with the Department of Game, Fish and Parks.

6 An individual who provides fishing guide services without being registered is guilty  
7 of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The provision of guide services to each individual client  
8 constitutes a distinct and separate offense.

9 The registration requirement set forth in this section does not apply to an individual  
10 providing guide services on a body of water that is:

11 (1) Located entirely within the boundaries of a single privately owned property or  
12 multiple privately owned properties; and

13 (2) Not publicly accessible.

14 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 41-6:**

15 An individual seeking to register as a fishing guide shall annually submit an  
16 application to the Department of Game, Fish and Parks. The department shall make the  
17 application available on its website, and in printed form upon request.

18 To be eligible for registration as a fishing guide, an individual must:

19 (1) Be at least ~~twenty-one~~ ~~eighteen~~ years of age;

20 (2) Pay a registration fee in the amount of:

21 (a) Fifty dollars, if a resident of this state; or

22 (b) Two hundred fifty dollars, if a nonresident of this state; and

23 (3) Agree to submit a report to the department, as required in section 3 of this Act.

24 Any fee submitted for registration as a fishing guide, in accordance with this  
25 section, is nonrefundable.

1           The department shall forward any fee collected for registration as a fishing guide  
2 to the state treasurer for deposit into the department of game, fish and parks fund, and  
3 shall use the amount proportionally to support fish restocking efforts in the bodies of water  
4 from which fish were taken, as reported in accordance with section 3 of this Act.

5           Upon approval of an application and payment of the fee in accordance with this  
6 section, the department shall provide the guide with digital proof of registration.

7           Registration as a fishing guide is valid through March thirty-first of each year.

8       **Section 3. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 41-6:**

9           Each registered fishing guide shall submit electronically to the department, at the  
10 conclusion of each daily guided trip, a document showing:

11       (1) The date;

12       (2) The guide's name and registration number;

13       (3) The name and address of each individual participating in the guided trip;

14       (4) The body of water on which the guide services were provided; and

15       (5) The species and number of fish taken.

16       **Section 4. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 41-6:**

17           The Game, Fish and Parks Commission may, in accordance with chapter 1-26:

18       (1) Deny an application for registration as a fishing guide upon a determination that  
19 the application contains a material misrepresentation of any required information;

20       or

21       (2) Suspend the registration of any fishing guide upon a determination that:

22       (a) The guide has, without cause, failed to provide the daily report required in  
23 accordance with section 3 of this Act; or

24       (b) Has misrepresented information contained in the daily report.