



2026 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 131

HOUSE MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS ENGROSSED

Introduced by: **Senator Zikmund**

1 **An Act to revise the season in which a nonprofit organization may host a special**
 2 **pheasant hunt for disabled veterans and Purple Heart recipients.**

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

4 **Section 1. That § 41-11-5.5 be AMENDED:**

5 **41-11-5.5.** ~~Any~~ A nonprofit organization may ~~establish~~ host a special pheasant
 6 hunt in which disabled veterans ~~or~~ and Purple Heart recipients ~~of the United States Armed~~
 7 ~~Forces of the armed forces of the United States~~ may participate. The special pheasant
 8 hunt may be held ~~before or during the regular pheasant~~ during the private shooting
 9 preserve season, pursuant to § 41-10-11. No fee may be charged to participants in ~~any~~
 10 ~~such special pheasant~~ the hunt, by either the state or the sponsoring organization.

11 The Game, Fish and Parks Commission shall promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter
 12 1-26, to administer the special pheasant hunts authorized in this section.

13 ~~For the purposes of this section a disabled veteran is a person who meets one of~~
 14 ~~the following criteria:~~

15 (1) ~~A resident or nonresident veteran who has been adjudicated by the United States~~
 16 ~~Department of Veterans Affairs as twenty percent or more disabled due to a~~
 17 ~~service-connected disability or has received the United States Department of~~
 18 ~~Veterans Affairs K Award; or~~

19 (2) ~~A resident who has served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States~~
 20 ~~or has served as a member of the armed forces reserve or national guard, and the~~
 21 ~~resident is forty percent or more disabled for the purposes of receiving social~~
 22 ~~security benefits~~

23 For the purposes of this section, "disabled veteran" means a veteran of the armed
 24 forces of the United States who:

25 (1) Has been adjudicated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as being
 26 twenty percent or more disabled due to a service-connected disability; or

1 (2) Is designated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to receive
2 Special Monthly Compensation Level K pursuant to 38 U.S.C. § 1114 (January 1,
3 2026).