



2020 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1095**HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES ENGROSSED**

Introduced by: **Representative Brunner**

1 **An Act to revise requirements regarding hunting mentors.**

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

3 **Section 1.** That § 41-6-81 be AMENDED:

4 **41-6-81. Hunter mentoring program--Requirements--Promulgation of rules.**

5 Notwithstanding any provisions of Title 41 to the contrary, a child who is a resident
 6 of this state ~~who is and~~ less than sixteen years of age is not required to possess a hunting
 7 license in order to hunt, if the child is accompanied by a hunting mentor. A hunting mentor
 8 ~~is may be~~ the child's parent or guardian or any other competent adult who has the written
 9 consent of the child's parent or guardian.

10 The hunting mentor ~~shall be a resident of this state,~~ shall be unarmed, except as
 11 otherwise provided in this section, shall have successfully completed a hunter safety or
 12 hunter education course that meets the requirements of chapter 41-7, and shall possess
 13 a valid small game or waterfowl hunting license for the game being hunted. To serve as a
 14 hunting mentor for big game, the mentor shall possess the mentor big game license
 15 obtained by the child's parent or guardian.

16 A child who hunts pursuant to this section shall be under the immediate physical
 17 control, direct supervision, and responsibility of a hunting mentor, at the time the child
 18 discharges a firearm or operates a bow and arrow in the act of hunting.

19 A hunting mentor may accompany no more than one mentored child at any one
 20 time.

21 No hunting party that includes a mentored child may include more than six persons,
 22 regardless of whether or not members of the hunting party are hunting or possess or
 23 operate firearms.

24 A child who hunts pursuant to this section is subject to all requirements,
 25 restrictions, and penalties specified in this title and in ~~the~~ rules promulgated pursuant to
 26 this title, with respect to the species being hunted, except that the combined number of

1 animals taken or possessed by the child and the hunting mentor may not exceed the
2 number of animals authorized under licenses held by the hunting mentor.

3 A mentored child may not take big game under the provisions of this section except
4 antlerless deer, turkey, and doe-fawn antelope. No big game may be taken by a mentored
5 child unless the child's parent or legal guardian has been issued a license that designates
6 the child as a mentored child who is authorized to exercise the privileges granted by the
7 license. The license is valid only for the mentored child and is not transferable to another
8 person. Application for or issuance of such licenses does not affect the eligibility of the
9 parent or legal guardian for any other big game license.

10 ~~The requirement~~ Nothing in this section ~~that prohibits~~ the hunting mentor ~~to be~~
11 ~~unarmed does not prohibit the hunting mentor from possessing a permitted~~ from carrying
12 a concealed pistol or other legally possessed handgun.

13 The Game, Fish and Parks Commission shall promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter 1-
14 26, to establish criteria and conditions governing the hunter mentoring program
15 established in this section.