

SENATE BILL 2533

By Southerland

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 70,  
relative to exemptions from licensure for persons  
who are related to owners of farmlands.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 70-2-204(a)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting the following:

(A) The owners and tenants of farmlands, and their spouses and children, have the right to engage in the sport of hunting and fishing, subject to all laws or regulations concerning wildlife, upon such lands and waters on the land of which they or their spouses or parents are the bona fide owners or tenants, with the permission of the landowner, during the season when it is lawful to do so, without procuring a hunting and sport fishing license.

(B) The grandchildren and great-grandchildren under the age of sixteen (16) years of the owners of farmlands have the right to engage in the sport of hunting and fishing, subject to all laws or regulations concerning wildlife, upon such lands and waters on the land of which their grandparent or great-grandparent or grandparents or great-grandparents are the bona fide owners, with the permission of the landowner, during the season when it is lawful to do so, without procuring a hunting and sport fishing license.

(C) The spouses of the children of the owners of farmlands have the right to engage in the sport of hunting and fishing, subject to all laws or regulations concerning wildlife, upon such lands and waters on the land of which their mother-in-law or father-in-law is the bona fide owner, with the permission of the landowner, during the season when it is lawful to do so, without procuring a hunting and sport fishing license.

(D) Tenants and their spouses and their dependent children must be bona fide residents of this state and must actually reside on the land.

(E) Owners and their spouses, children, spouses of children, qualified grandchildren, and qualified great-grandchildren must be bona fide residents of this state.

(F) Land may qualify as farmland only if it is owned by no more than one (1) individual or a family; provided, that, if land is owned jointly or in common by persons who are first cousins related by blood, then such cousins and their children may hunt small game and fish on such land under this subsection (a).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it.