

- SUBJECT:** Waiving the fee for a fishing license for Texas residents 65 or older
- COMMITTEE:** Culture, Recreation, and Tourism — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 4 ayes — Guillen, Frullo, Larson, Smith
- 0 nays
- 3 absent — Dukes, Márquez, Murr
- WITNESSES:** For — James Hubert, Texas Silver-Haired Legislature; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Guy Herman)
- Against — None
- On — Ken Kurzawski and Justin Halvorsen, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- BACKGROUND:** Parks and Wildlife Code, sec. 46.004 allows the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission to waive the fishing licensing fee or establish a lower fee for a resident or nonresident who is 65 years old or older.
- It requires the commission to waive the fishing licensing fee for a qualified disabled veteran and for a resident on active duty as a member of the U.S. military forces, the Texas Army National Guard, the Texas Air National Guard, or the Texas State Guard.
- DIGEST:** HB 215 would require the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission to waive the fishing licensing fee for a resident who was at least 65 years of age.
- This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2015.