FOR CONSIDERATION By the Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

592-931-07

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to recreational licenses and permits issued by the Fish and Wildlife 3 4 Conservation Commission; amending s. 372.561, 5 F.S.; authorizing the commission, tax 6 collectors, and certain subagents to request 7 and collect donations when selling a 8 recreational license or permit; requiring the 9 transfer of such donations to the Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc., to be used for 10 specified purposes; amending s. 372.562, F.S.; 11 12 revising the exemption under which a resident 13 need not possess a license in order to fish in salt water from land or from a structure fixed 14 to land; providing for such exemption to apply 15 16 solely to residents who hold a Medicaid gold 17 card; requiring a person fishing under the 18 exemption to possess a Medicaid gold card and positive proof of identification; deleting the 19 exemption from licensure requirements provided 20 21 for a resident fishing for a saltwater species 22 in fresh water from land or from a structure 23 fixed to land; amending s. 372.57, F.S.; increasing the fees charged to residents and 2.4 nonresidents for certain hunting and fishing 25 licenses; creating a 3-day freshwater fishing 26 27 license for nonresidents; amending ss. 372.571 2.8 and 372.661, F.S.; conforming cross-references; reenacting ss. 372.5712(1), 372.5715(1), and 29 372.573, F.S., relating to revenues from the 30 waterfowl permit, the wild turkey permit, and 31

1 management area permits, to incorporate the 2 amendment to s. 372.57, F.S., in references thereto; providing an effective date. 3 4 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 5 6 7 Section 1. Present subsection (13) of section 372.561, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (14), and new 8 subsection (13) is added to that section, to read: 9 10 372.561 Recreational licenses, permits, and authorization numbers to take wild animal life, freshwater 11 12 aquatic life, and marine life; issuance; costs; reporting .--13 (13) The commission, any tax collector in this state, or any subagent authorized to sell licenses and permits under 14 s. 372.574 may request and collect donations when selling a 15 recreational license or permit authorized under s. 372.57. All 16 donations collected under this subsection must be transferred to the Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc., to be used for 18 the purposes specified in s. 372.0215. 19 (14) (13) The commission is authorized to adopt rules 20 21 pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the 2.2 provisions of this section. 23 Section 2. Subsection (2) of 372.562, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 2.4 372.562 Recreational licenses and permits; exemptions 25 from fees and requirements. --26 27 (2) A hunting, freshwater fishing, or saltwater fishing license or permit is not required for: (a) Any child under 16 years of age, except as 29 30 otherwise provided in this chapter.

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- (b) Any person hunting or freshwater fishing on her or his homestead property, or on the homestead property of the person's spouse or minor child; or any minor child hunting or freshwater fishing on the homestead property of her or his parent.
- (c) Any resident who is a member of the United States Armed Forces and not stationed in this state, when home on leave for 30 days or less, upon submission of orders.
- (d) Any resident fishing for recreational purposes only, within her or his county of residence with live or natural bait, using poles or lines not equipped with a fishing line retrieval mechanism. This exemption does not apply to residents fishing in, except on a legally established fish management area.
- (e) Any person <u>freshwater</u> fishing in a fish pond of 20 acres or less that is located entirely within the private property of the fish pond owner.
- (f) Any person <u>freshwater</u> fishing in a fish pond that is licensed in accordance with s. 372.5705.
- (g) Any person fishing who has been accepted as a client for developmental disabilities services by the Department of Children and Family Services, provided the department furnishes proof thereof.
- (h) Any resident saltwater fishing fishing in salt water from land or from a structure fixed to the land who has been issued a Medicaid gold card under the Medicaid program administered by the Agency for Health Care Administration. A Medicaid gold card issued in the resident's name and positive proof of identification are required when a resident is saltwater fishing under this exemption.

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- (i) Any person saltwater fishing from a vessel licensed pursuant to s. 372.57(7).
- (j) Any person saltwater fishing from a vessel the operator of which is licensed pursuant to s. 372.57(7).
- (k) Any person saltwater fishing who holds a valid saltwater products license issued under s. 370.06(2).
- (1) Any person <u>saltwater</u> fishing for recreational purposes from a pier licensed under s. 372.57.

(m) Any resident fishing for a saltwater species in fresh water from land or from a structure fixed to land.

(m)(n) Any resident fishing for mullet in fresh water who has a valid Florida freshwater fishing license.

(n)(o) Any resident 65 years of age or older who has in her or his possession proof of age and residency. A no-cost license under this paragraph may be obtained from any tax collector's office upon proof of age and residency and must be in the possession of the resident during hunting, freshwater fishing, and saltwater fishing activities.

(o) (p) Any employee of the commission who takes freshwater fish, saltwater fish, or game as part of employment with the commission, or any other person authorized by commission permit to take freshwater fish, saltwater fish, or game for scientific or educational purposes.

(p)(q) Any resident who holds a valid commercial fishing license issued under s. 372.65(1)(a).

Section 3. Subsections (4) and (5), paragraph (h) of subsection (8), and paragraph (a) of subsection (9) of section 372.57, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

372.57 Recreational licenses, permits, and authorization numbers; fees established .--

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- fishing activities in this state are as follows:
 - (a) Annual freshwater fishing license, \$15.50 \$12.
 - (b) Annual saltwater fishing license, \$15.50 \$12.
 - (c) Annual hunting license to take game, \$15.50\$11.
- (d) Annual combination hunting and freshwater fishing license, \$31\$22.
- (e) Annual combination freshwater fishing and saltwater fishing license, \$31\$24.
- (f) Annual combination hunting, freshwater fishing, and saltwater fishing license, \$46.50 \$34.
- (g) Annual license to take fur-bearing animals, \$25. However, a resident with a valid hunting license or a no-cost license who is taking fur-bearing animals for noncommercial purposes using guns or dogs only, and not traps or other devices, is not required to purchase this license. Also, a resident 65 years of age or older is not required to purchase this license.
- (h) Annual sportsman's license, \$79\$71, except that an annual sportsman's license for a resident 64 years of age or older is \$12. A sportsman's license authorizes the person to whom it is issued to take game and freshwater fish, subject to the state and federal laws, rules, and regulations, including rules of the commission, in effect at the time of the taking. Other authorized activities include activities authorized by a management area permit, a muzzle-loading gun season permit, a crossbow season permit, a turkey permit, a Florida waterfowl permit, and an archery season permit.
- (i) Annual gold sportsman's license, \$98.50\$87. The gold sportsman's license authorizes the person to whom it is

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issued to take freshwater fish, saltwater fish, and game,
subject to the state and federal laws, rules, and regulations,
including rules of the commission, in effect at the time of
taking. Other authorized activities include activities
authorized by a management area permit, a muzzle-loading gun
season permit, a crossbow season permit, a turkey permit, a
Florida waterfowl permit, an archery season permit, a snook
permit, and a spiny lobster permit.

- (j) Annual military gold sportsman's license, \$18.50. The gold sportsman's license authorizes the person to whom it is issued to take freshwater fish, saltwater fish, and game, subject to the state and federal laws, rules, and regulations, including rules of the commission, in effect at the time of taking. Other authorized activities include activities authorized by a management area permit, a muzzle-loading gun season permit, a crossbow season permit, a turkey permit, a Florida waterfowl permit, an archery season permit, a snook permit, and a spiny lobster permit. Any resident who is an active or retired member of the United States Armed Forces, the United States Armed Forces Reserve, the National Guard, the United States Coast Guard, or the United States Coast Guard Reserve is eligible to purchase the military gold sportsman's license upon submission of a current military identification card.
- (5) NONRESIDENT HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES.--The licenses and fees for nonresidents participating in hunting and fishing activities in the state are as follows:
- 28 <u>(a) Freshwater fishing license to take freshwater fish</u>
 29 <u>for 3 consecutive days, \$15.50.</u>
- 30 (b)(a) Freshwater fishing license to take freshwater 31 fish for 7 consecutive days, \$28.50\$15.

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\underline{(c)} (b) Saltwater fishing license to take saltwater fish for 3 consecutive days, \underline{$15.50$}.
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(d)(e) Saltwater fishing license to take saltwater fish for 7 consecutive days, \$28.50\$15.

(e)(d) Annual freshwater fishing license, \$45.50\$30.

(f) (e) Annual saltwater fishing license, \$30.

 $\frac{(q)(f)}{(f)}$ Hunting license to take game for 10 consecutive days, \$45.

(h)(g) Annual hunting license to take game, \$150.

(i)(h) Annual license to take fur-bearing animals, \$25. However, a nonresident with a valid Florida hunting license who is taking fur-bearing animals for noncommercial purposes using guns or dogs only, and not traps or other

devices, is not required to purchase this license.

- (8) SPECIFIED HUNTING, FISHING, AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY PERMITS.—In addition to any license required under this chapter, the following permits and fees for specified hunting, fishing, and recreational uses and activities are required:
- (h)1. A recreational user permit is required to hunt on, fish on, or otherwise use for outdoor recreational purposes land leased by the commission from private nongovernmental owners, except for those lands located directly north of the Apalachicola National Forest, east of the Ochlocknee River until the point the river meets the dam forming Lake Talquin, and south of the closest federal highway. The fee for a recreational user permit shall be based upon the economic compensation desired by the landowner, game

population levels, desired hunter density, and administrative costs. The permit fee shall be set by commission rule on a

30 costs. The permit fee shall be set by commission rule on

31 per-acre basis. The recreational user permit fee, less

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administrative costs of up to \$25 per permit, shall be remitted to the landowner as provided in the lease agreement for each area.

- 2. One minor dependent under 16 years of age, 16 years of age or younger, may hunt under the supervision of the permittee and is exempt from the recreational user permit requirements. The spouse and dependent children of a permittee are exempt from the recreational user permit requirements when engaged in outdoor recreational activities other than hunting and when accompanied by a permittee. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, no other exclusions, exceptions, or exemptions from the recreational user permit fee are authorized.
 - (9) RESIDENT 5-YEAR HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES. --
- (a) Five-year licenses are available for residents only, as follows:
- 1. A 5-year freshwater fishing or saltwater fishing license is \$77.50\$60 for each type of license and authorizes the person to whom the license is issued to take or attempt to take or possess freshwater fish or saltwater fish consistent with the state and federal laws and regulations and rules of the commission in effect at the time of taking.
- 2. A 5-year hunting license is\$77.50\$55 and authorizes the person to whom it is issued to take or attempt to take or possess game consistent with the state and federal laws and regulations and rules of the commission in effect at the time of taking.
- 3. The commission is authorized to sell the hunting, fishing, and recreational activity permits authorized in subsection (8) for a 5-year period to match the purchase of 5-year fishing and hunting licenses. The fee for each permit

issued under this paragraph shall be five times the annual cost established in subsection (8). 2 Section 4. Section 372.571, Florida Statutes, is 3 amended to read: 4 5 372.571 Expiration of licenses and permits.--Each license or permit issued under this chapter must be dated when issued. Each license or permit issued under this chapter remains valid for 12 months after the date of issuance, except 8 for a lifetime license issued pursuant to s. 372.57 which is 9 valid from the date of issuance until the death of the 10 individual to whom the license is issued unless otherwise 11 12 revoked in accordance with s. 372.83 or s. 372.99, or a 5-year 13 license issued pursuant to s. 372.57 which is valid for 5 consecutive years from the date of purchase unless otherwise 14 revoked in accordance with s. 372.83 or s. 372.99, or a 15 license issued pursuant to s. 372.57(5)(a), (b), (c), (d), or 16 17 (q) or (f) or (8)(f), or (g)2., or (h)1., which is valid for the period specified on the license. A resident lifetime 18 license or a resident 5-year license that has been purchased 19 by a resident of this state and who subsequently resides in 20 21 another state shall be honored for activities authorized by 22 that license. 23 Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 372.661, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 24 25 372.661 Private hunting preserve license fees; exception. --26 27 (2) A commercial hunting preserve license, which shall 2.8 exempt patrons of licensed preserves from the license and

permit requirements of s. 372.57(4)(c), (d), (f), (h), (i),

and (j); (5) $\frac{(f)}{(f)}$ and (g) and (h); (8)(a), (b), and (e);

(9)(a)2.; (11); and (12) while hunting on the licensed

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preserve property, shall be \$500. Such commercial hunting 2 preserve license shall be available only to those private hunting preserves licensed pursuant to this section which are 3 operated exclusively for commercial purposes, which are open 4 to the public, and for which a uniform fee is charged to 5 patrons for hunting privileges. 7 Section 6. For the purpose of incorporating the 8 amendments made by this act to section 372.57, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 9 372.5712, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 10 372.5712 Florida waterfowl permit revenues.--11 12 (1) The commission shall expend the revenues generated 13 from the sale of the Florida waterfowl permit as provided in s. 372.57(8)(a) or that pro rata portion of any license that 14 includes waterfowl hunting privileges, as provided in s. 15 372.57(4)(h), (i), and (j) and (9)(a)3. as follows: A maximum 16 17 of 5 percent of the gross revenues shall be expended for 18 administrative costs; a maximum of 25 percent of the gross revenues shall be expended for waterfowl research approved by 19 the commission; and a maximum of 70 percent of the gross 20 revenues shall be expended for projects approved by the 2.1 22 commission, in consultation with the Waterfowl Advisory 23 Council, for the purpose of protecting and propagating migratory waterfowl and for the development, restoration, 2.4 maintenance, and preservation of wetlands within the state. 25 Section 7. For the purpose of incorporating the 26 27 amendments made by this act to section 372.57, Florida 2.8 Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 372.5715, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read: 29

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372.5715 Florida wild turkey permit revenues.--

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The commission shall expend the revenues generated
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   from the sale of the turkey permit as provided for in s.
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   372.57(8)(b) or that pro rata portion of any license that
   includes turkey hunting privileges as provided for in s.
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   372.57(4)(h), (i), and (j) for research and management of wild
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   turkeys.
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           Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the
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   amendments made by this act to section 372.57, Florida
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   Statutes, in a reference thereto, section 372.573, Florida
   Statutes, is reenacted to read:
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           372.573 Management area permit revenues.--The
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   commission shall expend the revenue generated from the sale of
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   the management area permit as provided for in s. 372.57(8)(g)
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   or that pro rata portion of any license that includes
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   management area privileges as provided for in s. 372.57(4)(h),
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    (i), and (j) for the lease, management, and protection of
   lands for public hunting, fishing, and other outdoor
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   recreation.
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           Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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                            SENATE SUMMARY
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      Provides for the Fish and Wildlife Conservation
     Commission, tax collectors, and subagents to collect donations for the Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc.,
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     when selling recreational licenses or permits. Deletes
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      the exemption from licensure requirements provided for
     residents fishing in salt water from land or from a
      structure fixed to land. Provides for such exemption to
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      apply solely to residents who hold a Medicaid gold card.
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     Deletes the exemption from licensure requirements
     provided for residents fishing for a saltwater species in
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     fresh water from land or from a structure fixed to land.
      Increases various fees charged to residents and
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     nonresidents for certain hunting and fishing licenses.
     Creates a 3-day freshwater fishing license for
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     nonresidents.
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