

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to develop and make available to the public a course of instruction in conservation, competency in handling firearms, and hunter safety; requiring applicants for hunting licenses to offer evidence of successful completion of the course of instruction or its equivalent or that they previously had been issued a license to hunt with firearms in Maryland, or any similar certificate, or hunting license, issued outside this State, providing that the privileges are reciprocal; providing administrative relief for applicants refused a certificate of competency; and providing penalties for violations.

BY adding to

Article - Natural Resources
Section 10-301.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1975 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 10-301.1 be and it is hereby added to Article - Natural Resources, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1974 Volume and 1975 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

10-301.1.

(A) CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY AND SAFETY.

(1) (I) ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 1977, A PERSON UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE MAY NOT PROCURE A HUNTING LICENSE OR HUNT IN THIS STATE, UNLESS HE HAS FIRST BEEN ISSUED A CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY IN FIREARMS AND HUNTER SAFETY.

(II) ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 1977, A PERSON, REGARDLESS OF AGE, MAY NOT PROCURE A HUNTING LICENSE WITHOUT PRODUCING A CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY OR A HUNTING LICENSE ISSUED PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1977 OR MAKING OUT AN AFFIDAVIT THAT HE HAD SUCH A LICENSE.

[[(2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO THOSE PERSONS PRESENTLY EXEMPT FROM PURCHASING A LICENSE IN THIS STATE [[AS PROVIDED ELSEWHERE IN]] UNDER THIS TITLE OR TO NONRESIDENTS OF MARYLAND.]]

(2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO NONRESIDENTS OF MARYLAND WHO PURCHASE A HUNTING LICENSE IN THIS STATE TO HUNT WILD WATERFOWL. HOWEVER, THIS DOES APPLY TO NONRESIDENTS OF MARYLAND WHO PURCHASE HUNTING LICENSES IN THIS STATE TO HUNT OTHER WILDLIFE.

(B) COURSE IN CONSERVATION, COMPETENCY AND SAFETY