1	State of Arkansas	As Engrossed: H3/6/25		
2	95th General Assembly	A Bill	***************************************	
3	Regular Session, 2025		HOUSE BILL 1632	
4	D D			
5	By: Representative Wardlaw			
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7 8		For An Act To Be Entitled		
9	AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING HUNTING AND FISHING			
10	LICENSES; TO REQUIRE REIMBURSEMENT TO THE ARKANSAS			
11	STATE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION FOR FREE OR DISCOUNTED			
12	HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.			
13		,		
14				
15		Subtitle		
16	TO REQ	UIRE REIMBURSEMENT TO THE ARKANSA	S	
17	STATE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION FOR FREE			
18	OR DISCOUNTED HUNTING AND FISHING			
19	LICENSI	ES.		
20				
21	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:			
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23	SECTION 1. Arkans	sas Code Title 15, Chapter 42, Sub	ochapter l, is	
24	amended to add an additional section to read as follows:			
25	<u>15-42-131.</u> Reimbu	rsement for free or discounted li	<u>lcenses.</u>	
26	(a) The General A	Assembly finds that:		
27	(1) Revenue	e from hunting and fishing license	es is a crucial	
28	element for funding state fish and wildlife agencies' conservation efforts			
29	across the nation;			
30		, well-intentioned programs to of		
31	discounted licenses to certain qualified individuals and groups have the			
32	potential to reap deteriorative effects on the agencies' budgets;			
33	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	(3) To prevent the loss of sportsmen-generated dollars for		
34	_	conservation funding, some states have enacted legislation to require		
35		cate fish and wildlife agencies fr	com the general funds	
36	for any free and discoun	<u>ited licenses; and</u>		

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1	(4) The state needs to take action to ensure the conservation		
2	efforts of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission are protected.		
3	(b)(1) The commission shall be reimbursed for lost revenue resulting		
4	from the issuance of free or partially discounted annual resident combination		
5	sportsman hunting and fishing licenses created by statute on or after the		
6	effective date of this act in an amount equal to the discounts received.		
7	(2) Subdivision (b)(1) of this section also shall apply to lost		
8	revenue resulting from exemptions to licensure requirements created by		
9	statute on or after the effective date of this act in an amount equal to the		
10	amount of lost revenue from the exemptions.		
11	(c) The commission shall:		
12	(1) Maintain an accounting of lost revenue under subsection (b)		
13	of this section; and		
14	(2) Submit the accounting required under subdivision (c)(1) of		
15	this section to the Department of Finance and Administration for the payment		
16	of moneys in an amount equal to lost revenue out of the General Revenue Fund		
17	Account on or before June 30 of each fiscal year.		
18	(d) Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the accounting from the		
19	commission, the department shall deposit the amount of lost revenue for the		
20	previous fiscal year into the Game Protection Fund.		
21	(e) The accounting required by subdivision (c)(1) of this section and		
22	any other records relating to the accounting shall be subject to audit by		
23	Arkansas Legislative Audit.		
24	(f) Any reimbursement to the commission for lost revenue under		
25	subdivision (b) of this section shall be made from the General Revenue Fund		
26	Account subject to an appropriation by the General Assembly.		
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28	/s/Wardlaw		
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