

Joyce Hladky

From: Don Woodard [don_woodard2002@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 3:47 AM
To: Larry Powell
Subject: Senate Bill 314

Dear Representative Powell:

Since you are the Chair of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, I am writing to you to request that you demonstrate your support for Kansas Seniors by opposing Senate Bill 314, which is to be considered by your Committee on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 8 AM.

I am a duly elected representative of the Silver Haired Legislature from Shawnee County and our body has already voted in opposition to this legislation.

This legislation seeks to reinstate the cost of hunting/fishing licenses for Kansans 65 years old and older.

I am 68 years old and I am an avid fisherman and once in a while hunter.

I did not mind having to pay the hunting fee or the fishing license all these years since I looked forward to the day when I could take my grandchildren fishing and hunting with me.

Since children under 16 do not have to pay for a hunting/fishing license, it has been a wonderful opportunity for grandparents to take their grandchildren hunting and fishing without having to worry about having to go get a license.

I still cannot believe there are state legislators that have decided the Wildlife Department needs this revenue from senior citizens on fixed incomes and who deem it necessary to disrupt grandparents lives by requiring them to obtain hunting/fishing licenses.

During the Senate hearings, the Wildlife representative indicated that there are 376,000 Kansans 65 years of age and older. About 250,000 licenses are purchased every year. This legislation will effect about 50,000 seniors. I do not know if those numbers are accurate and I don't believe it matters since this proposed legislation is ill conceived.

I only know that all of the seniors that I know are vigorously opposed to this legislation and are disgusted at the Wildlife Department for turning against seniors after receiving our support for all of our working lives.

The proposed amendent moving the age to 75 until 2020 is hardly an improvement since at age 68 right now, I will never enjoy that opportunity!

The amendment to lower the cost by 50% to seniors is not supportive of senior's desire to just take their grandchildren hunting or fishing without having to go get a license, which the children do not need anyway!

I urge you to publicly indicate your opposition to this legislation and to vote against this proposed legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Don Woodard

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