

CHAPTER 17.

[ S. B. 97. ]

HUNTING LICENSES—INSTRUCTION IN USE OF FIREARMS.

AN ACT relating to game and game fish; adding a new section to chapter 36, Laws of 1955, and to chapter 77.32 RCW.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

New section.

SECTION 1. There is added to chapter 36, Laws of 1955, and chapter 77.32 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Certificate prerequisite to license.

The commission may, as a condition precedent to the granting of a hunting license, require that all persons seventeen years of age or younger present a certificate stating that the holder has completed a course of instruction of at least four hours in the safe handling of firearms.

Training program.

The commission is authorized to establish a program for training persons in the safe handling of firearms, and for this purpose may cooperate with the National Rifle Association, organized sportsmen's groups, or any public or private association or organization having as one of its objectives the promotion of safety in firearms handling.

The commission shall prescribe the type of instruction, the qualifications of the instructors, and has the right to except certain areas from the requirements of such instruction when facilities for giving instruction are not available.

Firearms safety certificate.

Each trainee, upon successful completion of the course shall be furnished a firearms safety certificate which shall be signed by an authorized instructor and which certificate shall be considered as compliance with this act for the purpose of obtaining a hunting license.

Passed the Senate February 4, 1957.

Passed the House February 14, 1957.

Approved by the Governor February 19, 1957.