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# Kansas State Rifle Association

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February 16, 2012

RE: Senate Natural Resources Committee  
Senate Bill No. 314 Hearing

Dear Chairman Ostmeyer and Honorable Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony to you as an opponent of SB 314, An Act amending KSA 32-906 and 32-919 which would repeal the exemption for Senior Citizens regarding the payment of license fees for hunting and fishing.

I am the President and Registered Lobbyist for the Kansas State Rifle Association, the NRA State Affiliate. I speak for over 6000 KSRA members and over 48,000 Kansas NRA members. Many of our members are avid hunters, fishermen and sportsmen.

The issue before you has been of strong concern to our membership and we ask that you vote in opposition to SB 314 in its current form, which if passed, would require all Senior Citizens to pay for hunting and fishing licenses.

Senior Citizens in Kansas have had the good fortune to look forward to no longer paying for hunting and fishing licenses since 1965. A great majority of these folks have purchased hunting and fishing licenses for all of their lives, possibly for as many as 49 years as many have hunted since their youth, and they have paid their fair share. Most have looked forward to the day when they retire and start living on fixed incomes that they will be able to continue their sport of hunting and fishing without paying those license fees. There are also a great many of these seniors who are already 65 and have been afforded this privilege and are accustomed to it. In addition, many of those seniors take the time and money to promote hunting and fishing to the younger generations of their families and pass down the family tradition. Often times it is "Grandpa" and "Grandma" who are paying for those hunting and fishing licenses. They are able to afford to do that because they do not have to pay for their own.

The KSRA did a scientific survey to determine how Kansas sportsmen and women felt about the possible repeal of the exemption provision and I have attached the final report for your review. This survey was sent to 2,424 members of the KSRA. The respondent rate was 25% which shows extraordinary interest as the average survey respondent rate is only 10% with any survey. Of those 606 respondents, 84.3% of them said they did not approve of the exemption being repealed. Another 67.6% of those respondents said there is no reason they consider valid for repealing the exemption. The survey report really speaks for itself and I hope you will take a minute to look it over. It includes verbatim open ended comments made by the respondents. It is obvious that most of them believe this repeal is not necessary.

We believe that there are other ways for KDWP to generate the revenue needed. Putting added expense on the backs of seniors is not the way to do it. We would like to suggest for one example that a request for appropriations be submitted. Until 2009 KDWP received an estimated 4 to 5 million dollars in funding from appropriations. Perhaps stopping those appropriations was not viable as must have been thought at the time it was done. Another acceptable compromise would be to offer every person turning 65 the ability to purchase a lifetime license for a nominal fee such as \$10.00. Another acceptable compromise may be to grandfather everyone born prior to a certain year, such as 1955, thereby those nearing and already 65 will be exempt from the repeal. Although the later is not what we would really hope for. Our belief is that if funding is needed that it be sought through other means altogether.

At a time when the economy is so very troubled and prices for everything from gasoline to groceries is soaring, we believe that adding more financial burden to the senior citizen will only find us seeing a notable drop in the number of hunter's and fisherman in that age category. I recall when state park fees were raised, it backfired and the number of users markedly decreased. I think this will have the same effect.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for considering our position in this most important matter. We respectfully urge that you vote NO on SB 314 in its current form.

Respectfully Submitted,

President  
913-667-3044 Direct Line  
913-522-4765 Cell



# *Kansas State Rifle Association*

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## **Senior Citizen Hunting and Fishing License Fee**

**Survey**

**February 2012**

**Please take a moment to complete this important survey. Legislation has been introduced that will require Kansas Senior Citizens to start paying for hunting and fishing licenses. We need your opinion. This survey closes on Friday, February 10th at 5:00pm.**

1. Kansas Senior Citizens aged 65 and over have not paid for hunting and fishing licenses for nearly 50 years. Do you approve of the repeal of existing rules that allow free hunting and fishing licenses for Kansas Senior Citizens 65 years of age and older

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
YES			100	16.5 %
NO			487	80.3 %
UNDECIDED			19	3.1 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
<b>Totals</b>			<b>606</b>	<b>100%</b>

2. Should Kansas Senior Citizens age 65 and over have to pay for hunting and fishing licenses?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
YES			95	15.6 %
NO			511	84.3 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
<b>Totals</b>			<b>606</b>	<b>100%</b>

3. Which of the following would you agree are valid reasons for making Kansas Senior Citizens start paying for hunting and fishing licenses? Select all options you agree are valid reasons.

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
KDWP needs to make more money			27	4.4 %
KDWP needs more money to expand current programs			42	6.9 %
KDWP needs money to create new programs			29	4.7 %
KDWP needs more money to sustain current programs			104	17.1 %
Baby Boomers are coming into their Senior years and are a large percentage of the population.			92	15.1 %
The additional number of hunting and fishing licenses sold would qualify the department for more federal funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.			90	14.8 %
None			410	67.6 %
Other			30	4.9 %
<b>Totals</b>			<b>606</b>	<b>100%</b>

4. If the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWP) needs more money to run the programs they desire, should they look elsewhere for funding as opposed to charging Senior Citizens for their hunting and fishing licenses?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
YES			494	81.5 %
NO			77	12.7 %
Other			35	5.7 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
<b>Totals</b>			<b>606</b>	<b>100%</b>

5. The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWP) has not received money through appropriations from the State of Kansas for the last couple of years. Should KDWP apply for legislative appropriations to help subsidize their programs rather than charging Seniors for hunting and fishing licenses?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
YES			433	71.4 %
NO			138	22.7 %
Other			35	5.7 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
<b>Totals</b>			<b>606</b>	<b>100%</b>

6. Should the Kansas State Rifle Association oppose legislation that would make Kansas Senior Citizens pay for hunting and fishing licenses?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
YES			490	80.8 %
NO			104	17.1 %
Other			12	1.9 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
<b>Totals</b>			<b>606</b>	<b>100%</b>

7. What age bracket are you in?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
18 to 25			3	<1 %
26 to 35			28	4.6 %
36 to 45			52	8.5 %
46 to 54			100	16.5 %
55 to 64			223	36.7 %
65 or older			200	33.0 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
<b>Totals</b>			<b>606</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Are you male or female?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
MALE			577	95.2 %
FEMALE			29	4.7 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
<b>Totals</b>			<b>606</b>	<b>100%</b>

9. Do you currently have a hunting or fishing license?

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
YES			291	48.0 %
NO			315	51.9 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
<b>Totals</b>			<b>606</b>	<b>100%</b>



# ***Kansas State Rifle Association***

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## **Senior Citizen Hunting and Fishing License Fee**

**Verbatim Responses to the Survey**

**February 2012**

**1. Kansas Senior Citizens aged 65 and over have not paid for hunting and fishing licenses for nearly 50 years. Do you approve of the repeal of existing rules that allow free hunting and fishing licenses for Kansas Senior Citizens 65 years of age and older?**

People over age 65 usually have the most free time (and therefore can hunt and fish more often--taking more fish and game). Anyone can purchase a lifetime license (like I did long ago) that provides the same after-65 benefit. Current hunt and fish permits are quite reasonable and everyone should pay his/her own share.

I don't think one group should be favored over another based on age, sex, religion, career, or any other factor.

I understand the desire of the state to increase it's income, but would like to see them get a reduced rate

No one should get to kill animals for free.

i think the programs need the funding to continue.

Leave well enough alone - seniors in that age bracket are a dying breed. Their participation in hunting is often in a teaching role, the amount that would be collected is paltry. Losing their experience could cost the next generation of hunters, while bringing in almost no funds.

Age should have no bearing on the requirement to pay for a hunting or fishing license. There is no reason why younger hunters & fishermen should have to pay for a license, but a senior citizen should not.

I wonder how much money this will make the state by taking the simple pleasure of fishing from seniors. Victor Locke age 71.

Senior Citizens do not need to pay for hunting and fishing licenses.

Unless the baby boomers pay after age 65 there will not be enough of the younger generations to keep our opportunities equal or better to what we now have.

I have supported hunting and fishing in Ks for 50 years and now want to take away what I have been looking at age 65. If I had known this was coming, I would have purchased a lifetime hunting permit years ago. I think you need to grandfather all residents that are age 57 and older into old system and start with an age that is equal to buying a lifetime license divided by the annual cost today for a license. Then use this number as the years to subtract from age 65 to start age for new change.

Leave the money in our wallets so that we can buy licenses for our grand kids.

Have no objection to paying for licesnses provided they close the loophole that lets anyone claim landowner status. There is no effective enforcement. I do not believe that I should pay to make up shortfall from fraudulent permits.

This group of people earned this privilege.

A reasonable special rate should be fair for all.

they have already paid their dues.

The Federal Government is already attacking seniors. I hope the State of Kansas is above that. If we need more revenue, build another casino or raise hunting and fishing licenses slightly to save the seniors.

What pathetic liberal moron introduced this?

I've bought alot of hunting and fishing licenses over the years(some I never needed),looking forward to the day I didn't have to. I think I've paid my dues as I seldom hunt or fish,if You take your grand kids hunting or fishing you don't have time for your own gun or pole.

Amazing that they now want to charge Senior citizens

SENIOR CITIZENS HAVE MADE THIS GREAT STATE WHAT IT IS. WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO PENALIZE THEM FOR IT? I THINK THEY DESERVE SOME REWARD AND SHOULD BE ABLE TO HUNT & FISH AT NO CHARGE & I WOULD GO ONE FURTHER AND NOT CHARGE THEM TO GET INTO THE STATE PARKS ALSO.

Why change it?

If it isn't broken, don't fix it.

Let's see. Social S which our employers and us paid in all our working years. The same secure fund robbed of Millions of dollars for congress pet projects to gain re-election - no adjustments due to inflation, Medicare which we have paid our dues will now be given to illegles' along with our SS  
We senior citizens have no money to do things to make our life worthwhile and now the piddling amount we would have to pay to hunt is needed to share with congress's no-limit spending our money.  
Cut \$\$\$

Unfair to senior citizens that have paid for license for so many years, give them a break.

Seniors of the Seniors that hunt have the funding to pay for their hunts and therefore could help the economy.

IT IS TIME FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO GET OUT OF OUR LIVES AND POCKETS. NO MATTER WHAT AMOUNT THEY GET IT IS WASTED AND THEY ALWAYS WANT MORE.

I have a life time Kansas Hunting License and was happy to pay for it. But having said that, most senior citizens have paid their dues. One aspect that the State and others are not accounting for are the volunteer hours that seniors provide to the Department of Wild life and are not paid for their work. Senior citiizens are mentors for new hunters to keep the program alive, Hunter Ed instructors, etc. They are still providing a contribution to the State (free of charge).

Older hunters and fishers have supported KS DWP all their lives and have earned the right to not pay when they reach 65!

Seeing as I am nearing this age I might be a little biased, but I would gladly pay for a license that had a reduced fee at 65.

I don't think anyone should have to have a license to hunt on there own land.

They should be working to make this a permanent rule instead.

I wouldn't be able to afford to hunt or fish if the exemption is done away with. Many years pre-age 65 I was not able to hunt or fish due to not having the money to get a license.

All individuals should bear the burden equally.

It takes a hunter or a fisherman to make a new one.

What happens at age 65 that precludes a hunter from paying for privilege? Fifty years ago, 65+ was a rare age to attain. Now, with the baby boomers entering that age bracket, they are a significantly large part of the population. The real question is, where does the money go? If it's to the hunter's benefit, then why exclude this group from supporting the sport?

The baby boomers have largely paid for the burgeoning entitlement programs for everyone else. Now that they are retiring, wanting to take life easy, and enjoy their turn to reap the rewards, some clowns step forward and suggest the rules need to be changed.....government allegedly can't function without forever squeezing this group.

I am 65 years old and believe seniors are entitled to support hunting and fishing by paying the same fees as all other citizens.

I think a reduced fee fishing licence would be a workable solution,and it would help pay for restocking fish. No hunting licence fee. At 65 and older most men dont hunt much if at all.

I know if i go hunting, it wouldnt be more than once in a season and if i had to buy a licence it wouldnt be worth it. I dont think the state would gain much revenue buy it---just piss people off.

Fishing is a leisure activity that many older people enjoy---Hunting is quite physical,--cont  
next block

It seems like there should be some kind of incentive to staying alive and healthy this long. Social Security doesn't pay nearly as well as a full time job used to, so it is important to us.

Just another way to take more money , and give less.

I understand the issue of limited resources for those of us over 65, but to maintain wildlife everyone needs to contribute.

I purchased a lifetime license, maybe stress that avenue of purchase.

The "it's been this way for 50 years" argument is a poor one.

It's worked for this long, leave it alone. This is one perk I am OK letting seniors have. If the state is this broke, they need to cut spending in other areas.

It might stop some grandparents from taking grandchildren hunting or fishing.

I think that age should be raised rather than just repealing the rules maybe to 70 or 75



Like the general population, the hunting and fishing demographic has aged. Sixty-five isn't "old" any more. Also, many of us who are "seniors" can better afford license fees than those who are younger. Exemption, if any are allowed, should be based on income.

As a young person I hunted a lot and always had a license. Now I may hunt once a year, or maybe not at all. Yet I would probably need to buy a license just in case an old buddy wanted me to go along. Or maybe I just wouldn't hunt any more, in which case I would not need to buy practice ammo, or trade for a more desirable gun. Lots of us old timers would just quit being interested any more.

If the reason for repealing the existing rule of exempting seniors is to generate revenues, then the state of Kansas is in huge financial trouble. Leave the seniors alone.

How much would this add to the KDWP revenue?

Unfair as most seniors are unable to hunt much due to physical limitations. I think some other way can be found to raise money other than taxing seniors more.

Most of the avid sportsmen have probably paid for licenses for at least 45-50 years. Give us a break.

I think everyone should pay. Just because you get old should not mean you don't have to pay. Programs cost money.

if they charge those over 65, then everyone must pay including Native Americans and any other group that is now exempt.

Most are retired, live on fixed income

If it is needed to keep a healthy wildlife program.

Senior citizens have mostly been hunting and fishing for years; paying their share by buying licenses and tags, and many are now on fixed income so the law as it stands should remain.

Older people are able to hunt and fish less due to their physical condition. It only seems fair that after a lifetime of buying permits they should be given free hunt/fish permits when they are least able to pay for it.

**BIG, BIG IF, YES IF THE FUNDS RAISED BY THE REPEAL ARE DEVOTED SOLELY TO HUNTING & FISHING ACTIVITIES. IF THE DEPT. OF PARKS ETC WANTS TO USE THE REVENUE FOR HIKING TRAILS OR ANY OTHER NON HUNTING OR FISHING ACTIVITIES, I AM 100% AGAINST.**

I have lived by the 'rules' and paid my way, including support of seniors' programs, for all of my working life of 5+ decades and now they want to change the rules? Most seniors are living on reduced annual incomes which in most cases are fixed. We are the most affected by inflation which is caused by government mandated increases in the minimum wage and other wasteful government programs.

Why would Kansas want to punish Senior Citizens by making them pay from their small income.

I don't believe being 65 deserves special treatment.

I paid to hunt and fish all my life. I'm 67 now and retired. The only thing I can easily do is fish. I only get to go, maybe once or twice a summer. I'm on SS and can't afford to buy a license and maybe use it one or two times. The person who thought this up should be thrown out of office.

As a senior citizen I have no problem with paying.

Give the older generation a chance to take grand kids hunting at no charge!

Terrible thing to do to them!

They've already paid their part. How many seniors even hunt or fish?

If you would vote to repeal, than if it was possible, would you also vote to do away with Social Security payment, after I have paid in all my life? I FEAR THAT YOU WOULD.

Are we really that desperate? Do we have to go after grandma and gampa?

they have paid enough all there life.

I am not sure why they should not be in the same "pay to play" world I am in. Don't they get enough govt handouts that I will never see?

my wife me a lifetime hunting licenses several years ago. So I won't be bothered there.

Let the people who use their services pay for them regardless of age. I'm almost 61 and I shouldn't get a free ride just because I am old. With more people in this age group now the KDWP will have less money coming in to pay for the same or more services.

My Dad is rolling over in his grave. That was one of the things he looked forward to when he turned 65.

50 years tells you that previous Kansas governments knew how to trim budgets without being absurd

Another example of govt. not willing to live within its means. In this case it's a user fee, but it's always more revenue!

at a reduced price

This is just another form of welfare and as a Libertarian I cannot condone welfare of any kind.

Many of Kansas elderly citizens are on fixed low incomes. Deciding to charge Seniors now after lifetime of paying for hunting and fishing in their younger years is despicable. These people made Kansas Fish and Game what it is now. Seniors need to be treated with respect and gratitude.

we are really in trouble when this group has to be tapped more to save the state.hey politicians balance your check book we have to.....

most senior citizens have worked their entire lives, paying taxes for their entire lives. they have payed their debt to society. they have earned the right to be able to hunt and fish for free.

This change will discourage people from hunting.  
I am very disappointed to see the fees added just when I get to retirement age and am on a fixed income.

If they want to hunt, let them hunt.

It is a cheap and dirty deal to rescind this, one of the few perks of getting old. People who pay their way, all of their lives, should have a few things to look forward to that aren't attached to a bill.

If they take Sr. Citizens, then take the Native Americans away also.

Neither should disabled veterans that have 60% or more rated disability by VA.

They shouldn't cater to deer hunting and bow hunters so much.

A senior discount might be right but not totally free.

They should pay a lower price but the way the State budget is we need all the money we can raise for the programs

I could not and would not support the repeal.

I paid for licenses from 15 to 65. I'm 79 now and still go hunting (and have to buy a deer tag.) I go fishing about twice a year. Get rid of some of the illegal aliens that the state is wasteing tax dollars on and you would not have to tax the old \*\*\*\*\*.

I do not understand how that can have a meaningful effect on revenue for KDWP. How about kicking entitlement addicted lazy asses off the freeby roles.

I don't see this as a senior citizen issue, because I don't believe anyone should have to pay the government to go hunting and fishing. If senior citizens are able to do these activities for free now, it should remain that way. I believe conservation efforts could be effectively managed by private organizations.

Many of this age are on fixed income.

I bought hunting licenses, stamps and permits from the time I was 16 to age 64--Not to mention numerous park permits--I have taught hunter ed from the first classes held---Seems very greedy to me!

We have paid sence age 16 so I think the state needs to leave in the existing rule. Their greed sickins me. They can't balance their own check book let alone the states, so they try to grab more money from folks that have paid, paid & paid. If they need more money try cutting out programs that are nothing more than pork spending.

Free stuff for us elder folks should go. This goes back to when originally approved we did not live much past 65. Over 65 folks now can probably afford the cost more so than the young folks. I say if you use it you should pay your fair share.

Senior citizens are usually on a fixed income and this will be a new hardship placed on them. The state needs to either manage it's assets better or figure a better way to make up this shortfall. I'm at the age (52) where buy a lifetime license is cost prohibitive versus buying my license per annum.

See comment #2.
Come on..... they have earned it!
I don't know the fee but I believe all should pay
The hunting and fishing fees have far exceeded the raises of wages making paying for the licenses harder than ever for those on a fixed income.
If the dept needs more money to operate, have the idiot that proposed the repeal, take a pay cut!
I bought a compo Kansas hunt/fish license every year from age 16 to 65 I feel I have paid my dues. If they feel they need to charge seniors haw about making those under 16 pay also??
Senior citizens have hard enough time as it is, they should be able to do a little hunting and fishing in their golden years with out having to pay license fees.
I've paid for hunting and fishing licenses for 49 years. Being a senior citizen shoud have some benefits.
Leave the law as it is.
UNDECIDED
I think the idea sucks. The present rules/laws have been on the books for years, and fiscal mismanagement at the state/local level is no excuse for digging in the pockets of seniors who have earned a few benefits by simply paying the huge taxes in Kansas City, Ks.
It depends. If a program is to exist then it does need to be funded. Our debt is ridiculous already, we can't afford more. That being said, taxes shouldn't be increased either. Really what should be done is taxes lowered and these programs be turned into pay as you go services.
Honestly I'd rather not have this become a big issue for us. I'd much rather focus our energies on making it simpler for younger people to hunt and fish - they are the future.
Quite frankly, in today's economy the people with the most insecurity and "need" of subsidy from the state are the young - not people of retirement age. My grandpa can afford to pay full price for dinner out or a hunting license, but how about the young family with kids that truly needs to hunt to eat?
Fishing, in particular, is one of the few activities that many older folk can still enjoy. They put a lot of money into the sporting goods stores, restaraunts, motels, gas etc. You start charging us for licences and many of us may quit the sport. Every body loses!!!!!!
Some senior citizens can afford to buy a license. I'm 66 years old and unless I win the lottery, I can't go hunting.
Yes if it will help fund more improvement in habitat, and poacher control. I am 78 years old and don't feel like I should get a free ride because the Lord has granted me this long life.
i do not understand how the question is phrased.
This is what I think: Everyone should be able to fish free, especially youth and seniors.
Seniors who hunt and fish buy bait, shell, poles, lures, sinkers, waders, boats, trucks, trailers, hats, gloves, parkas, and on and on. The tax dollars generated by these seniors far surpasses the costs of the licenses. Get real Kansas, reward your seniors for their life long support of their state.
I THINK THIS LAW STINKS!!!
I believe that if you are a resident of Kansas and have reached the age of 65, you deserve a free hunting & fishing license.
I find it disconcerting that someone is trying to fatten the coffers with money from a portion of the population that is probably living on a fixed income, and their participation is limited in most cases. I fall into this catagory, and I have enjoyed this benefit for 2 years, after having paid for my licenses for 30 plus years. Being on a fixed income, every little bit helps in this horrible economy. I will continue to support hunting and fishing, but I hope common sense prevails.
Keep it the same as MISSOURI.
I do not support the repeal

## 2. Should Kansas Senior Citizens age 65 and over have to pay for hunting and fishing licenses?

See comments on first question.

Why should they hunt for free just because they are older? With more time on their hands during retirement, they have the potential to take more game than anyone else. Currently they don't pay their share of the expenses for this. Why should the younger people do all of the paying?

Same reason as above.

see #1

Only a modest fee.

We still have to buy migratory bird stamps and deer permits if I am not mistaken. It was stated somewhere the % of Srs. that hunt deer is large, so the State is getting the money there.

Senior have served their time not to pay

they should either pay the going rate or a marginally reduced rate for hunting & fishing licenses.

See statement under #1.

See comment above

When I turned 40, I bought a lifetime hunting permit. It was a good investment. Senior citizens should always have this free privilege.

they have already paid their dues!

See question 1.

Most are fixed income and use our state and federal parks during the week when others do not. It would hurt park revenue dramatically.

Not unless they have spent most of their lives on welfare.

However I did buy licenses at age 66 and 67 not remembering that I didn't need to.

Senior Citizens are on fixed incomes. If the KDWP must increase revenues, then the Seniors should get a substantial break on their licenses. Those still earning income should be able to afford to pay more thus a way to increase revenue.

I would be agreeable to a dramatically reduced fee for Seniors and I think length of KS residency should be a consideration; someone who has already paid into the system for over a decade or so should receive more consideration for free status.

why hit those of us who are on a fixed income have to add to our expenses

They should be able to get a discount but not free.

For 40 years we paid all the taxes you asked for.  
Now you going to tax first hunting, next fishing, belonging to service organizations.  
Where will this end???

Again, no problem with a reduced fee.

Only when hunting on public lands not when hunting on their own land.

I would gladly pay a fee of 5.00 for a hunting or fishing license. I could afford that. If we all paid a five dollar fee, that would help the dept. greatly. If the full fee is required, they will get nothing, because I won't be able to pay.

At a rate of 50% of what the general population pays.

See comments for #1.

I see no problem. The state could sell them at a reduced rate.

Is the State of Kansas that broke? What percentage of those over 65 are really out there hunting? If you take the amount they paid for licenses over the years they probably paid more than the life time licenses fee. I do not fish, but I bought a combo license every year and some years I never got into the field due to my job. N My hunting buddies are getting too old to walk the fields, but they still contribute to the local income going with their children and grand-children.

I am 65 years old and believe seniors are entitled to support hunting and fishing by paying the same fees as all other citizens.

and requires extended exposure to the harsh winter elements. I would guess that 90% of hunters are under 60 yrs old. Repealing free hunting licences would be no big benefit to the state coffers.

We get very few breaks now, without removing one that allows us to get out and enjoy things occasionally.

See above comment.

Maybe charge half price.

I'll be in the "65 and over" category in 13 years and will gladly pay for my own hunting and fishing license. It's not as if the cost is so onerous as to deny them the right to fish and hunt. Skip one evening out or conserve enough fuel to skip one tank of gas, and it's paid for. It's essentially the same cost as a couple boxes of high end shells!

Seniors have enough to worry about and spend money on. For those that hunt and fish, I think we can allow them to have a free license.

yes but not at full price

I think that age should be raised rather than just repealing the rules maybe to 70 or 75

Find the money some place else. The politicians spent it, make them pay for it. The seniors have contributed enough throughout their lifetime. They earned what little "perks" are left.

See above.

Those of us that have purchased lifetime hunting and or fishing licenses have essentially paid fees that others will not pay when they reach age 65. If they didn't want to pay the annual fee they should have purchased lifetime licenses.

just the special "stamps" such as upland game stamps, etc, which is what is done now.

If changes in demographics require it, changes in the rules make sense.

When I hunt or fish I normally have at least one or grandchildren with me. As they learn these hobbies, they will buy permits in the future.

SEE ABOVE.

This would likely cause a reduction in fishing and especially hunting among seniors and also in their participation in the education of children and young adults regarding fishing and hunting pursuits.

But at half priced.

I don't believe being 65 deserves special treatment.

Same comment as No.1

See above.

I am not sure why they should not be in the same "pay to play" world I am in. Don't they get enough govt handouts that I will never see?

Maybe charge half price.

I'll be in the "65 and over" category in 13 years and will gladly pay for my own hunting and fishing license. It's not as if the cost is so onerous as to deny them the right to fish and hunt. Skip one evening out or conserve enough fuel to skip one tank of gas, and it's paid for. It's essentially the same cost as a couple boxes of high end shells!

Seniors have enough to worry about and spend money on. For those that hunt and fish, I think we can allow them to have a free license.

yes but not at full price

I think that age should be raised rather than just repealing the rules maybe to 70 or 75

Find the money some place else. The politicians spent it, make them pay for it. The seniors have contributed enough throughout their lifetime. They earned what little "perks" are left.

See above.

Those of us that have purchased lifetime hunting and or fishing licenses have essentially paid fees that others will not pay when they reach age 65. If they didn't want to pay the annual fee they should have purchased lifetime licenses.

just the special "stamps" such as upland game stamps, etc, which is what is done now.

If changes in demographics require it, changes in the rules make sense.

When I hunt or fish I normally have at least one or grandchildren with me. As they learn these hobbies, they will buy permits in the future.

SEE ABOVE.

This would likely cause a reduction in fishing and especially hunting among seniors and also in their participation in the education of children and young adults regarding fishing and hunting pursuits.

But at half priced.

I don't believe being 65 deserves special treatment.

Same comment as No.1

See above.

I am not sure why they should not be in the same "pay to play" world I am in. Don't they get enough govt handouts that I will never see?

If they do have to pay, it should be at a lower price. Besides just how many baby boomers are going to be out there hunting and fishing.

Let the people who use their services pay for them regardless of age. I'm almost 61 and I shouldn't get a free ride just because I am old. With more people in this age group now the KDWPT will have less money coming in to pay for the same or more services.

Most of them live on limited incomes and may not be able to hunt and/or fish without the free licenses. Some of those over 65 are the grandparents that take out their children and grandchildren and teach them how to hunt and fish.

at a greatly reduced rate, like \$5.00 for a combo

Maybe a lower amount. Vets over 65?

same as above

Free licenses should encourage seniors to hunt and fish, which in turn may encourage them to take grandchildren to the field and introduce hunting and fishing to the next generation.

They paid all of their lives knowing that when they were 65 they would not have that expense.

No one should.

No they should not. The amount of money involved here is trivial. If the state of Kansas is that short of cash, we are all in trouble. I would limit this to Kansas residents though. Hey, how about this; let's make the payment of license fees by the elderly citizens of Kansas voluntary. If they feel that they want to compensate the state for the priveledge, then I would not restrict them from doing so.

They don't need to charge extra for the third fishing pole.

They had paid their way and then some.

Hell no !

Not sure what effect this would even have on revenues.

Most of the seniors hunt/fish for the enjoyment and not for the limit of game, also with being on a set income a lot would probably just quit anyway so they will not be gaining that much in charging them.

See above statement.

Why not?

See comments on question #1.

An unqualified "NO". As a senior myself I feel I have paid my way since the 50's for hunting licenses in seven or more states. I do not think we need preferential treatment merely because we have gray hair, but that we have earned the right to a hunting license without charge.

Randy Rainwater; Citizen, veteran and taxpayer.

NO.... They have earned it.

Yes if they expect any services.

Same as ABOVE!

Same as above

The People who are now over the age that requires a hunting/fishing lisenche have long supported the state for many years and should be able to enjoy a few benefits while trying to live on the meger amount they have to live on in their senior years.We still have to pay taxes and other fees required by the state. We need a breaksomehow and this is just one.

I will be 65 this year and was looking forward to enjoying some retirement, which isn't going to happen now. I knew that when KDWP was placed under tourism that the greed would come out, and it has

I have paid plenty over the years. Go ahead, punish us over 65. We can change our future vote procedures.

If it costs money to pay for a service then everyone should pay for their service.

However the fee should be less since many seniors have limited incomes after retirement.

The cost of all hunting and fishing licenses reduces the number of hunter and/or fishermen. The state gets tax revenue from gasoline, fishing tackle and ammunition sales.  
Is the object to have more revenue or to punish old people.

The seniors aren't much different than any other special interest group. Everybody should pay the same regardless of a demographic data point.

How is this question different from number one?

I would imagine that after 65 years of paying for a hunting or fishing card, a person has well paid their dues to the system. Let 65+ folks continue to hunt and fish for free.

**3. Which of the following would you agree are valid reasons for making Kansas Senior Citizens start paying for hunting and fishing licenses? Select all options you agree are valid reasons.**

Even with walk-in programs, many areas of the state have little or no public access to quality hunting. More money could provide revenue to perhaps partly remedy this situation. (Few other states exempt over-65 and under-16 hunters from license requirements, although many have reduced cost fees.

Without charging this huge number of hunters/fisherman some license fees, it could potentially raise fees for the rest of us. More hunters not paying equals more fees for those who do.

fuking redikulus

I don't think any federal funding should go towards hunting and fishing. The individuals participating in the program should support it regardless of their age or any other identifying factor.

Keep KDWP budget as is and reduce cost to all for hunting and fishing licenses.

The program and funing should pay for it

Federal money means federal rules. If Kansas need help we need to look to Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever and other national groups focused on protecting the environment and improving wildlife populations.

Government does not need to grow any larger.
The number of Seniors, who, as grandparents, with limited incomes, who are able to get out and encourage their grandchildren to hunt and fish thus creating a greater licensing base, would be lessened if fees are levied.
Just close that loophole and they will have more money
They are entering the twilight years of their lives and should be able to enjoy it without being nickle and dimed to death.
Maybe they could receive a discount, 65% of the total cost.
We have plenty of government as it is
State hunting/fishing licenses are none of the federal govts business. Federal funding simply gives the fed power over this dept. (We'll pull funding if you don't kiss our you-know-what.)
P.S. -Hi, Patricia! Happy shooting!
The ability to hunt and fish with some degree of sucesess means that game departments to have adequate funds to add space to do so, replenish fish and game that isn't self sustaining, and enforce proper management regulations, is directly perportinate to the funds available to do so. As a senior sportsman, I don't find it out of line to pay the small license fees we do to hunt and fish.
KDWP could ask Seniors to volunteer to help with some of the work efforts to help relieve some of the cost of labor on the projects as opposed to asking them to pay for a benefit most have earned over the years by purchasing licenses over the years.
Offer licenses at a discounted rate but not free!
YOU CAN FIND THE DIFFERENCE SOME WHERE ELSE. DON'T CUT SO MANY TAXES.
We all "need" more money. They need to stop wasting what they have now. They drive pretty nice trucks and have fancy buildings.
The department should try to get back more of ammo tax funds for shooting programs as well as hunting.
Obamacare includes a section that states that old people will not have life-saving medical service because the younger persons need it more.
Clean up the massive waste in other State run programs and you won't have to publish such a rediculous survey such as this. Asking the senior citizens, who have been hit hardest by this economy, to pay more.....please !!!
THEY ALWAYS HAVE THEIR LAME EXCUSES FOR NEEDING MORE MONEY.
At all levels, government is swallowing up our economy. We have two ways to go. Reduce the scope of government or raise taxes. Until more leaders take responsibility and start cutting back on the size and growth of government our only choice is to raise revenue. I MUCH prefer reducing government but hardly anyone is truly serious about doing it.
They should not have to pay....
If KDWP is short on funding layoff a game wardens.
Find other ways to, like us seniors have to meet expenses. Raise licenses fees on non residents.
See above.
Cut 30% of the department's buearcratic jobs NOT field enforcement (game wardens) jobs
Senior citizens are obviously greedy in thinking they should be treated like those before them.
I don't see a problem with seniors paying for a hunting and fishing license.
I believe the money needed for creating and sustaining programs is important but should not be a burden on our senior citizens. Let's look at businesses: hasn't several casinos opened in KS this past year? How about funding from the state income from them?
They probally do need funds to sustain their spending since the W,X,Y,Z generations are not involved in hunting and fishing like the baby-boomer's.



The truth is the baby boomers are coming, so they see it as a way to rip us off. They raise the fees so much in the last 20 years, people have quit buying licenses.

NOTE: Any Kansan along the way could purchase a lifetime hunt/fish license.

I very much support the KDWP. I think they do a great job. But I don't want the older folks to bear the additional burden of license fees.

I am sure that all are legitimate reasons, but I would be willing to pay a slightly higher fee to allow those of 65 free hunting and fishing.

They could pay a reduced rate if it is necessary to prevent current programs from being eliminated.

While yes, Baby Boomers are coming into their Senior years and are a large percentage of the population but does not mean that they are all hunters. Secondly, as the Baby Boomers reach this age due to physical restraints and failing eye sight many at this age give up the sport of Hunting. I think you would find a very small percentage at the end of the day to really impact any associated cost gains that would be anticipated by implementing this Program.

If it came down to charging or having to close public areas for fishing and hunting

How much revenue is really lost each year due to the issuance of Senior licenses? Senior hunting contributes to the economy with purchase of hunting ammunition, supplies, food and lodging for hunting trips, etc.

This is just another example of government (whether it be federal, state, local) reaching into someone's pocket to be picked for some contrived reason which really equates to extending government power and control. How many people aged 65 and over are going out hunting anyway? I'm sure the number is underwhelming. This is another unnecessary, bogus government contrivance. Deo Vindice.

Ref above.

KDWP would need to show how the money would be spent. I know fishing/hunting licenses pay for a great deal of improvements for hunters and fishermen.

The programs cost money. If less people pay, then those who are not old pay more. Everyone needs to share the cost.

There are better ways to fund justifiable programs than to take away existing perks and putting additional costs on the backs of seniors. Working age people should continue to pay for justifiable programs as did I and other seniors for more than 50 years. If these programs can't be justified by current revenues & fees, then they should simply be cut from the budget.

WE DID NOT HAVE A PROBLEM WITH MONEY UNTIL WE STARTED SUPPORTING THE PARKS DEP. AS USUAL THE HUNTERS AND FISHERMEN ARE PAYING EVERYBODY ELSE WAY.

This is wrong all this will do is drive more people away from hunting and fishing and that is the last thing we need at this time

I don't know if KDWP needs more money and don't know about the federal funding, I just think it's fair for everyone to pay the same.

I have 22 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren who will more than make up for any loss that KDWP says they have taken.

Cut 30% of the department's bureaucratic jobs NOT field enforcement (game wardens) jobs

Senior citizens are obviously greedy in thinking they should be treated like those before them.

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I have 22 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren who will more than make up for any loss that KDWP says they have taken.

As inflation causes prices to increase and as the purchasing power of the dollar decreases ending he free ride for us older folks will help.

Raise it for regular people but not seniors.

I don't think the numbers of seniors would amount to a lot of money anyone.

If the state of kansas would have left KDWP funds alone instead of puting their \$\$\$\$ into the general fund they would have plenty of money.

I've earned my FREE hunting and fishing. I've worked all my life[most of it here in kansas] leave my retirement alone

Most baby boomers are capable of paying the fee.hopefully after novemeber the economy will be(changed for good)

Let the people who use their services pay for them regardless of age. I'm almost 61 and I shouldn't get a free ride just because I am old. With more people in this age group now the KDWPT will have less money coming in to pay for the same or more services.

Their stated problem was declining numbers of hunters, particularly among younger people. So fees from seniors will solve the problem?

I would like to see their budgets for the last 5 or so years.

Under the baby boomers watch our nations economy was socialized and their time has come to help shoulder the burden they have placed on their descendents. The bill has come due for the "free" lunch.

Just because the KWDP "needs" the money, does not justify the increase in fees to fund that "need".

Just because I "need" more money, my employer doesn't just pay me more. I have to work more to earn more.

THE BABY BOOMERS HAVE BEEN A REAL PROBLEM EVER SINCE THEIR CONCEPTION IN ALL TOO HUGE NUMBERS. AND THEY WILL PROBABLY BANKRUPT SOCIAL SECURITY FAR QUICKER THAN EXPECTED.

There are no good reasons for this. It is something that a lot of good Kansans have been looking forward to for a long time. It would be cruel to take it away from them.

The baby boomers have been carrying the load most of there life.

I'm not well enough informed to know so I have to trust that they are managing their funds to get the most value. One program that I use and like is the walk-in hunting and having locations so you can use GPS to locate them.

If all Seniors don't pay we will run out of money do the fact most hunters are starting to hit the SR. age

There is not a ligimate reason on the list. Maybe all we need are a bunch of new people in Topeka.

I don't think the KDWP needs to create, sustain, or expand any programs. Conservation efforts should be left to private organizations, and the policing duties of the KDWP should be budgeted along with other law enforcement expenses. This would reduce the amount of money required and eliminate the need to expand the license fee base.

KDWP, LIKE SO MANY STATE AGENCIES NEEDS TO LIVE WITHIN ITS OWN BUDGET LIMITATIONS, WITHOUT PENALIZING ANY SEGMENT OF THEIR LICENSEES UNDER EXISTING REGULATIONS.

How about all of the above

there are other way`s of raising revnue

Most of the programs are user funded. So if seniors use them they should pay too.

The KDWP needs to learn how to manage with what they've got, just like homeowners and taxpayers who have nowhere to turn when money gets tight.

Pay as you go services are better than everyone giving government a bunch of money and then the government deciding where it should go.

Although, I checked the above two items, I'm still not supportive of this plan.

The federal government has no business in state affairs.

Maybe the Koch Brothers need to start paying their fare share for the state of Kansas and stop asking the poor and the Seniors to keep paying. Maybe this is to be the NEW AMERICAN WAY

More federal funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlide Service???? Where do you think these funds come from. That's right from us via taxes. We need to reduce the dollars we send to Washington, not increase them.

LET ME SEE THE STATS ON THE WEB!!

I would support 65+ aged folks paying to hunt or fish if the very agency who issues these cards is in danger of going under. Perhaps if the agencies who stock lakes or manage deer seasons needed money badly to stay running. Short of that, I see no reason to charge elders.

**4. If the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT) needs more money to run the programs they desire, should they look elsewhere for funding as opposed to charging Senior Citizens for their hunting and fishing licenses?**

"Looking elsewhere" means looking to the taxpayers for the money. I don't support any additional tax expenditure.

charge out of state people more for coming into the state

Focus on out of state hunters and in-state ranches that run programs for out-of-state sportsmen.

KDWPT budget should be reviewed to determine need. Cost should be paid from sale of licenses.

I think you should find the money some where else.

Use Mo. as an example. Every one enjoys the out doors. Every one should support KDWPT in some way.

KDWPT should always be looking for other ways to fund projects & programs but should also charge senior citizens for licenses.

But, if you had been better stewards of the money you made over the years of the baby boomers then we would not have this problem now.

Increase usage of current parks by building more camp grounds especially at Lovewell, Waconda, and Wilson. The population is growing in our cities and too many people from SE KS are making their lake trips to OK and AK. Also, KDWPT needs to build a retail advertising campaign promoting Lifetime Licenses as graduation, birthday, and Christmas gifts. This advertising needs to be placed in media seen by women. They always control the gift decisions.

We do not need more programs.

like manage what they more effectively and stop messing around with nature.

CLOSE THE LOOPHOLE

They need to look inward and see the top heavy wages of upper level management.

control their spending!

Try cutting funding for illegal immigrants welfare/social security/healthcare.

make these other programs they desire pay their ownway.

why age 65, compromise at 67,68 or 69 then free licenses after that. If more money is needed then look at fee based programs to help along with other sources of revenue like the legislative appropriations and subsidies you mention.

If charging seniors doesn't meet the needs to continue good conservation and hunting and fishing, then certainly they need to look elsewhere.

Ask for help! not money

DWPT should be mostly self supporting. Seeking fees from all users is a rational way to get adequate funding.

Shut down those departments such as Education and others of the same category and use that money for worthwhile programs.

KDWP should build more rental cabins on the State Lakes and contract with private business to manage them if they wish to generate more revenue

Clean up the waste in the State and local gov and there will be enough money to fill the void.

Maybe the license holders age 16 - 64 could pay an extra 50 cents per license or out of state hunters and fishermen could have an increase of license fees.

Increase out of state fees.

Mabey we shouldnt be doing projects we cant pay for.

They should cut back on the programs they "desire".

Provide for a donation check-off on State Income Tax forms.

They should take a close look at their expense side of the ledger and cut programs they took over but aren't truly part of their mandate.

Because in 20 or less years, where are they going to get the money that they need when those baby boomers start to die off. It will be a new crisis that will have them crying for another change to give them money. I have nothing against KDWP, but they need to figure out other ways to get money.

Where is all the casino money going? Maybe that would be one area that could be tapped into?

Check other States that still offer free hunting and fishing for their Seniors.

Those individuals who use the services should pay the fees.

As they have for the past several years, raise the price of the fishing and hunting licenses, and/or don't initiate plans that you can't afford!

They should look at all options.
I agree the state should look elsewhere but feel Sr. citizens could purchase license(s) at a reduced rate and it would not hurt them too much.
as long as funds are for sustaining and not increasing programs.
Charge less in parks to encourage more use.
The options aren't exclusive of one another.
Quit finding ways to get more money from the public. Private business's have to make cuts & SO SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT! Stop pay raises, stop all the perks (or reduce them) and get people out of your office that are lazy!
We should eliminate whatever programs we can and try to live within our means.
Hunting license purchases are going to continue to fall. Local hunters are having a hard time finding places to hunt. The leasing of so much ground is pushing local hunters out.
I think most current officialdom is unable and incapable of managing operations well. They keep using tired, worn out methods of doing things but will not take a few steps back to look at the past, present, and future. By the way, how's this one? If we were having more babies in wedlock we probably wouldn't have so many of these issues.
Other revenue sources should be sought, in addition to doing away with the current exemptions.
They could require a slightly higher license fee for those under 65 who currently need a license.
Take Pay Cut
Ref above.
Hold the Budget right now.
I think I would rather pay for my child's license at an earlier age. Maybe start requiring a license at age 11 or something like that. Seniors deserve better. Not quite sure why they are being targeted.
See # 1
Increase the fees for those under 65; if those over 65 are to be made to pay, then let the fee be one half or less of the fee charged those under 65; major Sr Cit Discount...
I do not hunt & likely never will, but saddling this on our Seniors seems to be oh so wrong.
How about a lower cost than the rest?
The mission is to manage wildlife in the state. It is not to operate parks or promote tourism.
CHARGE THE HIKERS AND BIRDWATCHERS, AND ANY OTHER NON PAYING USER OF THE PARKS, LAKES, ETC. THEY HAVE USED THE LAND FOR YEARS AND USUALLY DON'T PAY ANYTHING FOR THE PRIVILEGE. THE LIONS SHARE OF THE COST HAVE BEEN PAID BY SPORTSMEN.
This proposal is likely to cause a further reduction in participation in the hunting and fishing sports rather than an increase in revenues from hunting and fishing licenses; but, perhaps that is the true motive of those advancing the proposal.
This poor economy doesn't seem a rational time to expand government programs. It's my opinion it's reasonable to expect everyone to pay the same fees regardless of age and don't mind the proposed change in general.
But not State Tax - use money from confiscations earlier - more enforcement (cases) to court and quicker
Taxes
Quite frankly, they charge more than enough for licenses. I find a license to hunt to be an affront to my liberty, although I do agree that our shared resources should be managed for the benefit of us all. It's a tough issue. Someone needs to think outside the box and come up with an innovative solution that funds the needs of the agency while promoting the hunting and fishing culture within the state.
get a sales tax like they do in Missouri.
They need to make it with what they got like all the rest of us have to.

I cannot understand what argument there is for allowing seniors, to not have to pay now. Hunting and fishing are leisure activities. I already subsidize their existence by paying into social security, of which I will never see.

Let the people who use their services pay for them regardless of age. I'm almost 61 and I shouldn't get a free ride just because I am old. With more people in this age group now the KDWP will have less money coming in to pay for the same or more services.

I would personally pay more for my licenses, so those over 65 won't have to pay.

Become more efficient in running their own departments

Why not just KDW? Is there never an end to continued growth in government?

how about landowners

If there is really a need we should all pay a fair share

The government needs to cut back everywhere like us poor folks have to.

Hunting and Fishing is a fundamental right of the citizenry. There are many other non-essential programs whose funding can be used for any "Senior Licensing" shortfall.

Why not do like Missouri and pass a sales tax that is exclusively for oaks and rec.

Perhaps they should live within their means. I have to.

No new fees or taxes. Cut programs to fit budget.

I think they should stay free, but if they need money I would rather have them charge Seniors as opposed to raising everyone else's fees.

Need to be innovative and creative, using out of the box thinking to be sure they are working smart. Don't get locked in to this is the way we've always done it. I do know that there are those who won't listen to common sense only that they don't "feel" like it's the thing to do.

The KDWP should reap what they have sown. They pushed and pushed for leasing and "trophy" hunting for so many years that they have eroded opportunity for the average sportsman in Kansas. I asked them 5 years ago how they were going to fund themselves when they lost a large percentage of license sales due to no one having a place to hunt. Their answer, a blank stare!

Charge Seniors less and find some funding elsewhere that way you have more sources of funding

I could give you a hell of a lot of places where you could cut. Most of them involve deadwood politicians. The whole idea is asinine.

Hunters and fishers can pay their fair share but again, how much will they bring into the coffers?

How about reviewing their projects/desires. Maybe some of them aren't needed

There are numerous ways to add more funds, but again, I believe the organization should be as lean as possible.

reinstate the upland bird stamp

Charge outfitters/guides for a permit to do so.

I don't think we need all this walk in hunting ground they pay for (let the hunters ask for permission).

trim the spending on stupid stuff and you will have plenty

Non-resident license fees could be increased. Kansas draws a lot of non-resident hunters and the fees are low.

Why not just raise the price of current licenses by fifty cents (.50)?

They should look toward the tourist industry. It's a goldmine waiting to be discovered.

The KDWP should require all citizens to pay to hunt and fish as well as look elsewhere for funding.

If they need more to run the programs, charge more.

rape the tourists like the rest of the country does. i.e. motel surecharges

KDWP can cut back their spending just as I have had to.

Those that use the resources and services should pay to support those programs, including senior citizens.

Maybe up the price per year on the hunting and or fishing licenses. A small amount that is or it could back fire.

Charge more for out of state licenses.

Clearly we already have a spending problem,if more money is needed for a program then cuts should be made somewhere that is less needed and ways should be found to streamline things.

How about a bird watchers license, or a license to hike.  
The fact they want more programs doesn't mean tyhey should run more programs.

What's this Tourism tagged on the end of this? I would guess this is why more money is needed.

If they don't have enough money to fund their programs, then they should have fewer programs.

How about conserve the dollars they currently receive by spending wisely.

They should stay within their budget and not add any new programs. If they are due money from the state then the state should pay up. We need a printing press like the Federal Reserve, that would take care of it "never mind the inflation"

**5. The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT) has not received money through appropriations from the State of Kansas for the last couple of years. Should KDWPT apply for legislative appropriations to help subsidize their programs rather than charging Seniors for hunting and fishing licenses?**

The State of Kansas is in need of funds for other essential programs.

No more taking tax money out of my pocket to support more programs!! I need more money, not the state!

They should cut their overhead and eliminate waste instead.

State should help

Kansas needs to grant appropriations as well as charging for hunting & fishing licenses. Many other people (taxpayers) enjoy Kansas lands who neither fish nor hunt. Those who enjoy the land but do not fish or hunt need to help fund programs rather than get a free ride and have only hunters & fishermen fund the programs.

I believe hunting and fishing helps more people in the State of Kansas than just those folks that buy licenses.

The resources under the KDWPT management are some of the best tourist attraction in the state. The guests who visit these sites spend money all across the state. KDWPT should receive some support from tax dollars collected state-wide.

We all pay taxes, sales taxes. Have them look for state funding, since they are a state organization.

control their spending,i have to!

Wouldn't this just subject the KDWPT to meddling by the legislature, costing the department what autonomy it might have now?

How much did we spend for that statue on top of the capitol building? I don't remember voting on it.

KDWPT can charge more for existing permits to citizens less than 65 years or reduce their budget so they don't need Kansas appropriations.

KDWPT IS A STATE ORIGANIZATION

Less taxes + less services + privatization of certain conservation efforts seems like an acceptable solution to me.

Whatever

See above.

DON'T CUT SO MANY TAXES...

Shrink the department to a size commensurate with it's income.

Rather than burdening the tax payer with higher fees and making seniors pay for hunting/fishing (out-of-state seniors should pay), entertain and advertise for fundraisers. At one time the KDWPT annual pass for KS residents was around \$40 annual; the fee was reduced to 1/2. I would suggest raising it 25% for KS residents and higher for out-of-state residents.

The users of the services should pay for it. If we draw money from the general fund it gives anti gun forces another wedge to drive between gun owners and the general public.

Why tax those who have worked their lives. payin their share of funding the state of Kansas, only to be taxed now when their money is tight. Hunting and fishing buys shells and fishing tackle so that they can have several hours of recreation to get the troubled world problems set a side and relax for a time

Once again, found waste in other State programs would more than fill the void for KDWPT.

Here's a novel idea. Why not just petition the Legislature to remove ALL license fees?

Again, a reduced fee license as well as getting appropriations from the legislature should both be used.

They should make do with less like alot of people are doing in hard times not sticking there hands deeper in our pockets.

They should cut back

So if the State of Kansas does not give them money and they don't charge senior for licenses, that they will go away. They cant think of anything else other than charge people or ask for money?

I doubt that the State can help, but, if necessary, they should be asked.

Difficult financial times require adjustments in goals and projects. If a minority of Kansans currently use the KDWPT services then the majority will find it difficult to support such expenditures.

Don't impliment plans you can't afford!

Aren't Kansas KDWPT programs appealing enough that they can't support themselves with fees charged to all but the seniors? If not, perhaps we don't need them.

How about doing fundraisers like everyone else has to do to raise money for programs. Or how about cutting some programs? Save money!

If financial studies show a large increase in revenues result if age exemption is eliminated, I might re-consider and reluctantly agree to the proposal or bumping the age for licnese exemption.

Ditto from #4

Just another form of tax.

The options aren't exclusive of one another.

They should do what we have to do, live within their budget.

MAKE CUTS from WITHIN JUST LIKE private business has to do!

Do we really need a Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism? If so, that department should learn to live within its means, not find ways to seize more money from us citizens for new programs.

Plus offer Public Fund Raising Programs to support the cause.

There must be other revenue generating opportunities (lake cabins, fee-based programs, tax form check-off, etc).

As far as possible, programs that benefit individuals who participate voluntarily should be funded by user fees.

I don't care where they get the money, as long as it's not from our seniors.

Ask the Tourism Industry for assistance

Users fees make more sense

raising costs of licenses and fees slightly for those now being sold would be better than putting burden on seniors.

THEN THEY WILL START TELLING THE KDWPT HOW & WHAT TO DO.



What has the revenue from hunting and fishing licenses got to do with tourism? Tourism and the development and maintenance of parks should be funded by legislative appropriations and not from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses.

They should do both. Why shouldn't a government agency expect government funding and it's reasonable that those of us who want to hunt and fish pay a nominal fee to cover the management of state conservation, etc.

They should seek additional funding from license sales to seniors rather than seek other state funding.

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KDWPT should apply for other legislative appropriations, as well as charge seniors.

Let the people who use their services pay for them regardless of age. I'm almost 61 and I shouldn't get a free ride just because I am old. With more people in this age group now the KDWPT will have less money coming in to pay for the same or more services.

With the bad economy and state programs getting cut all over the country, the money may not be there.

should be able to stand on its own. Or should get new management

Yes, with or without Seniors they should try and get funding.

First, tighten its own budget. Reduce planned growth of new programs and fund the main tenants of their charter. The Hunting and Fishing citizens of the State of Kansas. Then go to the State of Kansas for further appropriations if need be.

probably won't get it with this washington governor

They should live within their means. or get more 16-64 year olds out hunting and fishing. that would sell more licenses. and provide more money.

Everyone benefits from a healthy ecosystem, so all Kansans should contribute some to the wildlife and parks department.

Cut costs. Some of the walk in hunting areas are not worth having in the program. No cover, no feed, not habitat, no game and nowhere near the hunting populations.

Raise non-resident fees.

Cut spending to fit budget.

I tried to answer other but it would not let me finish.. so I have to answer no..Before I answer, I would like to know what the KDWPT is needing the money for.

The moneys that they are likely to receive from seniors is probably a drop in the bucket. The state should realize the magnitude of money involved and provide more support for this worthwhile activity. I have always had the opinion that the state thinks that activities that don't result in getting more wheat growing in the fields are worthless. There's more to life than commercial ventures.

Conservation of the game and preservation of habitat should be everybodys obligation.

Why all of the sudden do they need extra money? They just need to live within their means like the rest of us.

What about lottery and/or gambling funds?

Wean them from the feed trough. Does anybody honesty feel there is no place you can trim the cost of government ?

Why have they not received money the last "few years"? That implies that in the past they have. What changed? Tranfer funds from entitlement addicted lazy asses.

This should be a State level program. Although they should consider downsizing just like the rest of us.

Yes, the law enforcement efforts should be funded through the appropriations process.

They need to manage the department like a business not another government agency, legislative appropriations just leads to increased taxes.

See comments section #4.

The KDWPT should require all citizens to pay to hunt and fish as well as look elsewhere for funding.

If there is a deficit to the KDWPT, the State of Kansas should make up that deficit.

The Dept needs to cut back.

They need to get creative and expand funding and fees. Ecause I see an increased usage of state parks as people look to vacation closer to home to save money. Increased usage is good but also comes with a higher rate of deterioration.

They need to reduce spending.

They should look at cutting their own budget.

I would rather have to buy my licenses. The legislation has already ruined enough of the deer programs and is now wanting to control conservation which should be left up to the conservation officers, who are the experts

Dollar from license sales used to fund the KDWPT but was highjacked by the legislature for the general coffers. Maybe they should turn it back around.

A state agency should be paid for by te state general revenue funds.

If Tourism is the issue, it should be separate from KDWP.

We don't need an increase to our taxes.

Every agency needs to cut back. Seniors need to eat too. More people eat their fish these days. Food is important, fishing is not just entertainment and sport.

Go the legislative route, no way. If they got additional funding, if it weren't diverted from a current program, it would come from us via increased taxes.

START TRIMMING THE FAT OUT OF THE DEPARTMENT??

User fees for parks could be raised.

**6. Should the Kansas State Rifle Association oppose legislation that would make Kansas Senior Citizens pay for hunting and fishing licenses?**

If seniors don't pay, someone else is going to have to pick up the slack. If I have to pay more for licenses, I will have less money for ammo, gear, etc.

I think that current senior citizens should be exempt from paying since they have been promised free licensing. However, everyone not yet a senior citizen should have to pay from here on out.

A few less dinners at the governors's mansion might help.

I myself have never seen a financial report from the KDWP, so, until I do I am against giving more money to a state institution.

Some one needs to look out for those who have paid their dues. Next they will take away the deductions 65 years old get on Kansas taxes.

Senior Citizens should not have to pay!!!!!!

Yes, but . . . three things need to happen. KSRA needs to make realistic funding suggestions to the legislature. KSRA needs to aggressively encourage its membership to attend KDWP Commission meetings. Meeting dates need to be published in the newsletter. It is well worth a couple of vacation days a year. And third, KSRA must actively promote DU and PF and the NRA with cross memberships and by strongly encouraging KSRA members to also be members of DU and PF.

Unless the loophole is closed. Remember that a hunting license doesn't much more than a couple of boxes of shotshells or a small amount of fishing tackle. Seniors can afford it. How about making a half price senior license??

Why target this group when they have earned this right thru aging.

There are bigger issues that the KSRA need to focus on.

How much information does KSRA have now?

We have already paid our dues

YOU ALREADY KNOW THE ANSWER TO THE NEXT QUESTION.

I don't need to hunt.

That is why we pay you dues.  
Protect us.

Every one using public land for hunting should pay for its up keep. Noone hunting on there own land should have to pay for a license, tag or a stamp.

Just another example of government not being able to live within their own means. Seniors have paid for licenses for all their life and deserve a break in their most vulnerable years. What's next ... making minors pay for a license.

You are more informed than I am, but I feel that Kansas Senior Citizens have helped when they were younger, so should be able to have the same advantage that the Seniors before them had.

KSRA finances may be better utilized for public education on gun rights and KSRA activities there by increasing our membership numbers. This may help us to fight our future battles.

I don't consider it a gun thing as in the Second amendment.

Should oppose hunting licences.  
Should support a reduced fee for seniors fishing licence.

Not sure, how does it benefit the association?

I question how much additional revenue it would bring in.  
If absolutely required, have a significantly discounted fee.

I think that age should be raised rather than just repealing the rules maybe to 70 or 75

I think other approaches should be considered first. I realize they need to get funding and KDWP has made very nice improvements in KS for outdoorsmen.

I am in support of KSRA completely.

I don't believe this is a debate in which KSRA should be involved. No one is denying the citizens right to hunt or fish only whether or not they should purchase a license.
to the extent where those over 65 pay the same rate has those under 65.
Go for lower cost though.
This is a comment for question 9, which does not allow comment. I have had a lifetime license for many years, so whatever happens will not affect me.
SEE ONE ABOVE. HUNTING LICENSE SALES MUST BE USED TO SUPPORT HUNTING. FISHING LICENSE SALES MUST BE USED TO SUPPORT FISHING.
Yes, and they should also oppose another proposal by KDWPT to increase the cost, to seniors, for the annual Vehicle Park Permits for entrance to state parks.
I think that Senior Citizens should still have to pay for a license but at half price. A true sportsman will not mind spending the money on something that he or she loves and knowing that the proceeds go back into their hobby. Wildlife conservation's biggest supporter are licenses purchasing patrons.
Senior Citizens don't need special treatment when it comes to paying the same as everyone else to hunt and fish.
No, we've should concentrate on gaining more legal rights for gun owners.
Let the people who use their services pay for them regardless of age. I'm almost 61 and I shouldn't get a free ride just because I am old. With more people in this age group now the KDWPT will have less money coming in to pay for the same or more services.
the KSRA should focus on Firearms rights issues
Absolutely!
I don't really see this as a issue for the KSRA. But if the KSRA did oppose the legislation, then I would certainly support the action.
KSRA should focus on core 2nd amendment issues. This is a secondary issue that is not an infringement on basic constitutional rights. KSRA has been very effective in its relentlessfocus on gaining back our rights an I think these issues may serve to damage this effectiveness.
Yes, yes, yes!
I don't feel that strongly on the issue
I do wish that the power's to be would realize that the caliber requirements no longer make sense with all the new bullets for firearms. The current caliber requirements does not stand up to open minded thinking.
We are primarily a firearms rights and shooting sports political organization. We are not an organization lined up to lobby for bow hunting, trapping, or fishing conservation.
Does the KSRA really have to be told what to do. Maybe I and a lot of other people are wasteing time and money supporting the KSRA if they can't figure this one out.
Not sure as nothing has been presented to show that the benefit would be to KDWP or other hunters, etc...
Do what we can.
It is important that the KSRA stand against efforts to levy additional taxes on the public. Additional fees and taxes do nothing to help promote and sustain the right of free people to go hunting.
Thank You !!
See comments Section #4
am closing in on being a Senior Citizen myself and feel I should pay for the privilege to hunt or fish.
Nothing in life is free.
Please
Yes by all means

Like the income tax Chickadee checkoff, anybody who wants to pay more is free to do so.

No.  
KSRA should stick with guns, knives, etc.  
Stick with mission statement.

Read response to question number one.

Need my help, I would be happy to help my friends, senior citizens.

I feel that KSRA and the NRA in general must be over-supportive of pro-gun legislation, this means basically supporting all pro-gun laws, no matter how over the top. The Brady Bill crowd takes their actions to the extreme and the NRA must do the same to balance the playing field.

**7. What age bracket are you in?**

(No comments)

**8. Are you male or female?**

(No comments)

**9. Do you currently have a hunting or fishing license?**

(No Comments)