



**Senator Dave Burke**  
**26<sup>th</sup> Ohio Senate District**

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**BURKE INTRODUCES BILL TO SIMPLIFY THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING A HUNTING LICENSE FOR MILITARY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

*COLUMBUS*— State Senator Dave Burke (R- Marysville) announced today he has introduced Senate Bill 210, legislation that would exempt members of the armed forces and law enforcement from needing to complete a hunter education and conservation course in order to obtain an Ohio hunting license.

Currently, Ohio law requires all individuals to obtain a “certificate of completion” of a hunter education and conservation course prior to being issued a hunting license. While these courses are offered free of charge, they can last up to 12 hours – with home study adding additional time.

“If Ohioans can trust soldiers and law enforcement officers with their lives, I believe that we can trust them with following safety and regulatory hunting laws,” Burke said. “This legislation recognizes that these individuals have already received sufficient training in the proper handling and firing of a firearm when they go to apply for a hunting license, and will hopefully encourage more of these individuals to obtain a license here in Ohio.”

Burke’s bill would permit applicants who are active, reserve, or honorably discharged members of the armed forces or active duty or retired law enforcement officers from the hunter education course requirement, although they would still have to meet all other criteria in order to obtain an Ohio hunting license. Similar exemptions to hunter education requirements have been enacted in Alabama, Kentucky and Louisiana, and are pending in Indiana and Iowa.

Senate Bill 210 will now be assigned to a Senate committee for further consideration.

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*Senator Burke represents the 26<sup>th</sup> Ohio Senate District, which encompasses all of Crawford, Logan, Marion, Sandusky, Union and Wyandot counties as well as portions of Ottawa and Seneca counties. For more information, please visit [www.ohiosenate.gov/dave-burke](http://www.ohiosenate.gov/dave-burke).*