



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5388

January Session, 2025



***AN ACT CONCERNING FISHING AND HUNTING RIGHTS OF CERTAIN
NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 47-65a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 26-27, any Indian may
4 take, hunt or trap any wild bird or quadruped on, or take or assist in
5 taking any fish or bait species in the waters of, the reservation of such
6 Indian's tribe without a license therefor, subject to the regulations
7 promulgated by the council and to such seasonal and bag limitations as
8 may be provided by law. The Commissioner of Energy and
9 Environmental Protection shall issue, without fee, a private land deer
10 permit to any Indian for use only on the reservation of such Indian's
11 tribe, provided such reservation is not less than [two hundred fifty] ten
12 acres in size and provided further no such Indian shall be issued more
13 than one such permit per season. Such permit shall allow the use of a
14 rifle, shotgun, muzzleloader or bow and arrow on such reservation land
15 from November first until December thirty-first, inclusive, of each year.

16 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) The Commissioner of Energy
17 and Environmental Protection shall develop a ceremonial taking permit
18 for the taking of an animal specimen on state lands by any Indian for

19 ceremonial purposes provided: (1) There shall be no fee for such permit,
20 (2) such permit shall allow for only one such taking, and (3) such
21 specimen shall be a species that otherwise may be taken on state lands.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	47-65a
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section

ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*

APP *Joint Favorable*