AN ACT
CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY OF THE WILDLIFE COMMISSION TO ISSUE YOUTH HUNTING LICENSES.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. 33-4-117 (1), (2), and (4), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended, and the said 33-4-117 is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION, to read:

33-4-117. Youth licenses - terminally ill hunters - special restrictions and privileges. (1) A person under the age of eighteen years may obtain a youth small game hunting license, issued pursuant to section 33-4-102 (1.4) (x), for a fee of one dollar upon showing a hunter education certificate as required by section 33-6-107 (8). The one-dollar fee includes the search and rescue fund surcharge imposed under section 33-1-112.5 (2) (a).

(2) Every person UNDER SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE hunting with a youth small game hunting license shall at all times be accompanied by a person eighteen years of age or older as required by section 33-6-107 (3.5); except that a person of any age who purchases a small game hunting license issued pursuant to section 33-4-102 (1.4) (f) is exempt from this restriction.

(4) Youth big game licenses, entitling the holder to hunt deer, elk, or pronghorn, may be purchased by persons WHO ARE AT LEAST TWELVE BUT UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE for the fees specified in section 33-4-102 (1.4) (w). Said fees include the search and rescue fund surcharge imposed under section 33-1-112.5 (2) (a). Persons under sixteen years of age hunting deer, elk, or pronghorn must be accompanied by a person eighteen years of age or older as required by section 33-6-107 (4).

Capitol letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.
(6) The commission is authorized to establish a special licensing program for hunters twenty-one years of age or younger who suffer from a terminal illness or a life-threatening disease or injury and to adopt rules that establish a hunting license preference for such hunters.

SECTION 2. Effective date - applicability. (1) This act shall take effect January 1, 2007.

(2) However, if a referendum petition is filed against this act or an item, section, or part of this act during the 90-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly that is allowed for submitting a referendum petition pursuant to article V, section 1(3) of the state constitution, then the act, item, section, or part, shall not take effect unless approved by the people at a biennial regular general election and shall take effect on the date specified in subsection (1) or on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by proclamation of the governor, whichever is later.

(3) The provisions of this act shall apply to hunting licenses issued on or after the applicable effective date of this act.

Approved: April 24, 2006