

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 610

S.P. 192

In Senate, January 30, 1997

An Act to Amend the Moose Hunting Permit Laws.

Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator KIEFFER of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Senators: HALL of Piscataquis, MICHAUD of Penobscot, PARADIS of Aroostook, Representatives: LEMONT of Kittery, MACK of Standish, UNDERWOOD of Oxford.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

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4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7463-A, sub-§2-A**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 206, §4 and affected by 7, is amended to read:

6 **2-A. Number of permits.** The commissioner may issue moose hunting permits according to the following schedule:

8 A. In 1994, no more than 1,200 permits;

10 B. In 1995, no more than 1,400 permits; and

12 C. In 1996 and ~~in each year thereafter~~ 1997, no more than 1,500 permits;

14 D. In 1998 and 1999, no more than 3,000 permits, 300 of which must be issued to nonresidents or aliens; and

16 E. In 2000 and in each year thereafter, no more than 1,500 permits.

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22 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7463-A, sub-§5**, as amended by PL 1985, c. 120, §§1 and 2, is further amended to read:

24 **5. Eligibility.** Except as provided in this subsection, any Maine resident, nonresident or alien who is eligible to obtain a Maine hunting license is eligible to apply for a moose hunting permit. No person who has obtained a moose hunting permit may obtain another permit until 2 years have elapsed since the issuance of the last permit. This limitation does not apply to subpermittees. A person is not eligible to apply for a moose permit in 1998 or 1999 unless that person, at the time of application, possesses:

26 A. A valid Maine hunting license, if the person is a resident of the State; or

28 B. A valid Maine big game hunting license, if the person is a nonresident or alien.

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34 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7463-A, sub-§7-A** is enacted to read:

36 **7-A. Modified selection procedure for 1998 and 1999.** A person chosen to receive a permit in 1998 or 1999 in a public chance drawing conducted under subsection 7 may return, within 30 days after being chosen, that permit to the department. The department shall pay that person for the returned permit in an amount established by the commissioner by rule. Rules adopted by the commissioner to set the amount paid for returned permits under this subsection are major substantive rules for the

2 purposes of Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A. The
3 commissioner shall offer to sell returned permits, either at a
4 fixed price or by bid at an auction conducted by the department,
5 to applicants who were not chosen in the public chance drawing.

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SUMMARY

10 This bill increases from 1500 to 3000 the number of moose
11 permits that may be issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries
12 and Wildlife in calendar years 1998 and 1999.

14 The bill limits eligibility for moose permit applications in
15 1998 or 1999 only to persons who possess a valid Maine hunting
16 license, if the person is a resident of the State, or a valid
17 Maine big game hunting license, if the person is a nonresident or
18 alien. Persons who are chosen in those years to receive a permit
19 may, within 15 days of being chosen, sell their permit back to
20 the department for a predetermined fee. The commissioner shall
21 offer to sell returned permits to applicants who were not chosen
22 in the public chance drawing either at a fixed price or by bid at
23 an auction conducted by the department.

24 The provisions in this bill apply only in 1998 and 1999.
25 Beginning in the year 2000, and in each year thereafter, the
26 number of moose permits that may be issued annually is returned
to 1500, the amount allowed in current law for 1997.