

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1430

H.P. 939

House of Representatives, April 3, 2025

An Act to Promote the Welfare of Disabled Veterans Through the Transfer of Moose Permits

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft. (BY REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook and
Representatives: CHAPMAN of Auburn, DILL of Old Town, FREDETTE of Newport,
MCINTYRE of Lowell, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, THORNE of Carmel, WHITE of Guilford,
WHITE of Ellsworth.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§16**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 191, §1, is amended
3 to read:

4 **16. Moose permit transfer; disabled veterans.** A person who holds a valid moose
5 permit may transfer, in accordance with this subsection, that permit to a disabled veteran
6 who meets the eligibility and permit requirements under this section and section 10853,
7 subsection 4 and who is not otherwise prohibited from holding a moose permit. The
8 commissioner may authorize a permit holder to transfer the moose permit to a disabled
9 veteran identified by the permit holder, or the permit holder may return the permit to the
10 department, which, in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner, shall provide
11 for the transfer of the permit to a disabled veteran. A Notwithstanding subsections 16-A,
12 16-B and 16-C, a transferor and a transferee of the permit are subject to the elimination of
13 any accumulated points under subsection 8 and the 3-year ineligibility period under
14 subsection 5. Rules adopted under this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in
15 Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

16 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§16-A** is enacted to read:

17 **16-A. Moose permit transfer; nonprofit veteran aid organization transfer to**
18 **disabled veterans.** A nonprofit veteran aid organization based in this State that promotes
19 the mental and emotional welfare of veterans in this State by providing outdoor
20 opportunities may apply for a moose permit in order to transfer that permit, in accordance
21 with this subsection, to a disabled veteran who is a resident of this State, who meets the
22 eligibility and permit requirements under this section and section 10853, subsection 4 and
23 who is not otherwise prohibited from holding a moose permit. The commissioner may
24 authorize the transfer of a moose permit obtained under this subsection to a disabled veteran
25 identified by the organization, or the organization may return the permit to the department,
26 which, in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner, shall provide for the transfer
27 of the permit to a disabled veteran. The nonprofit veteran aid organization is eligible to
28 apply for a permit and start accumulating points under subsection 8 the year following the
29 transfer.

30 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§16-B** is enacted to read:

31 **16-B. Moose permit transfer; nonprofit veteran aid organization employee and**
32 **volunteer transfer to disabled veterans.** An employee or volunteer of a nonprofit veteran
33 aid organization based in this State that promotes the mental and emotional welfare of
34 veterans in this State by providing outdoor opportunities who holds a valid moose permit
35 may transfer, in accordance with this subsection, that permit to a disabled veteran who is a
36 resident of this State, who meets the eligibility and permit requirements under this section
37 and section 10853, subsection 4 and who is not otherwise prohibited from holding a moose
38 permit. The commissioner may authorize the permit holder to transfer the moose permit to
39 a disabled veteran identified by the permit holder, or the permit holder may return the
40 permit to the department, which, in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner,
41 shall provide for the transfer of the permit to a disabled veteran. The employee or volunteer
42 of the nonprofit veteran aid organization based in this State is eligible to apply for a permit
43 and start accumulating points under subsection 8 the year following the transfer.

44 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§16-C** is enacted to read:

16-C. Moose permit transfer; registered Maine guide transfer to disabled veterans. A registered Maine guide who is a resident of this State and who holds a valid moose permit may transfer, in accordance with this subsection, that permit to a disabled veteran who is a resident of this State, who meets the eligibility and permit requirements under this section and section 10853, subsection 4 and who is not otherwise prohibited from holding a moose permit. The commissioner may authorize the permit holder to transfer the moose permit to a disabled veteran identified by the permit holder, or the permit holder may return the permit to the department, which, in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner, shall provide for the transfer of the permit to a disabled veteran. If the registered Maine guide transferred that guide's permit without remuneration, that guide is eligible to apply for a permit and start accumulating points under subsection 8 the year following the transfer.

SUMMARY

This bill amends the laws governing moose permit transfers to disabled veterans by the following organizations or individuals if they meet certain eligibility requirements:

1. Nonprofit veteran aid organizations based in this State that promote the mental and emotional welfare of veterans in this State by providing outdoor opportunities;
2. The employees and volunteers of nonprofit veteran aid organizations based in this State that promote the mental and emotional welfare of veterans in this State by providing outdoor opportunities; and
3. Registered Maine guides who are residents of this State.

The bill clarifies that if an eligible organization or individual transfers a moose permit to a disabled veteran, the eligible organization or individual is able to apply for a moose permit again the following year and may also start accumulating points for the public chance drawing for a moose permit the following year.