

L.D. 1040

STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-269) llOTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 871, L.D. 1040, Bill, "AN ACT to Require Persons Being Licensed to Hunt for the First Time to Have Completed a Gun Safety Course."

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of paragraph A and inserting in its place the following:

<u>'A.</u> The commissioner may <u>shall</u> establish a program for training <u>miners</u> <u>individuals</u> in the safe handling of firearms and for this purpose may cooperate with any public or private association or organization having as one of its objectives the promotion of safety in firearms handling.'

Further amend the bill in section 3 by striking out everything after the amending clause and inserting in its place the following:

'7. Hunter safety course. All persons applying for any Maine firearm hunting license other than a juvenile license shall show proof of having successfully completed a hunter safety course as provided by chapter 703; or a hunter safety course which is equivalent or satisfactory proof of previously holding a firearms' hunting license issued to him from this State, any other state, province or country in any year beginning with 1975. COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 871, L.D. 1040 -2-

When proof of competency cannot be provided, the hunter may substitute a signed notarized affadavit that he has held the required license or that he successfully completed a Maine hunter safety course or its equivalent.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 4 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 4. Effective date. Section 3 of this Act is effective on January 1, 1983.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment calls for mandatory hunter safety training as a prerequisite for obtaining a Maine firearm hunting license other than a juvenile license after January 1, 1983. It recognizes other equivalent hunter safety courses and prior hunting licenses as alternate proof of competency.

Reported by the Majority of the Committee on Fisheries & Wildlife. Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

4/29/81

(Filing No. H-269)