

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1368

H.P. 970

House of Representatives, February 18, 1999

An Act to Ensure a Fair Distribution of Hunting Permits.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative SCHNEIDER of Durham.
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and
Representatives: FOSTER of Gray, JOY of Crystal, MADORE of Augusta, MARVIN of
Cape Elizabeth, PERKINS of Penobscot, TRAHAN of Waldoboro.

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

2
3 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7457, sub-§1, ¶H,** as amended by PL 1997, c.
4 225, §1, is further amended to read:

6 H. The commissioner may regulate the taking of antlerless
7 deer within any area of the State, as necessary, to maintain
8 deer populations in balance with available habitat if the
9 following conditions are met.

10 (1) The demarcation of each area must follow
11 recognizable physical boundaries such as rivers, roads
12 and railroad rights-of-way.

14 (2) The determination must be made and published prior
15 to August 1st of each year.

18 (3) The application fee for a permit to take an
19 antlerless deer may not exceed \$1. The application
20 must include a detachable portion on which the
21 applicant shall write the applicant's name and address
22 and to which the applicant shall affix a stamp of
23 adequate postage. The department shall return this
24 portion of the application to the applicant in
25 acknowledgement of the department's receipt of the
26 application.

28 (4) The commissioner may adopt rules necessary for the
29 administration, implementation, enforcement and
30 interpretation of this subsection, except that there
31 may not be an antlerless deer permit system unless
32 otherwise specified in this paragraph. Any rules
33 adopted by the commissioner that provide for permits to
34 be issued to nonresident or alien hunters must provide
35 that:

36 (a) The percentage of antlerless deer permits
37 issued to nonresident and alien hunters may not
38 exceed the percentage of all antlerless deer
39 permit applicants who are nonresidents and aliens;
40 and

42 (b) No more than 10% of the total number of
43 antlerless deer hunting permits may be issued to
44 nonresident or alien hunters.

46 (5) An antlerless deer permit system adopted by the
47 commissioner pursuant to this section may include a
48 provision giving special consideration to landowners
49 who keep their lands open to hunting by the public.
50

2 Any 2 or more areas of land owned by the same person
3 that are open for hunting and that would be contiguous
4 except for being divided by one or more roads are
5 considered contiguous for the purposes of determining
6 landowner eligibility for special consideration under
7 this subparagraph.

8 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7463-A, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 1995, c.
9 443, §1, is further amended to read:

10

11 **4. Hunting permits.** In accordance with the provisions of
12 subsections 1-A and 2-A, the commissioner may issue moose hunting
13 permits and may establish the number of moose hunting permits to
14 be issued for each moose hunting zone. ~~No more than 10% of the~~
15 The percentage of moose hunting permits may--be issued to
16 nonresident and alien moose hunting applicants may not exceed the
17 percentage of all moose hunting applicants who are nonresidents
18 and aliens and no more than 10% of the total number of moose
19 hunting permits may be issued to nonresident and alien hunters. A
20 person whose application is selected may purchase a moose hunting
21 permit upon presentation of proof that the person possesses:

22

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

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

27

28 The fee for a moose hunting permit is \$25 for 1993, \$27 for 1994,
29 \$28 for 1995 and \$29 for 1996 and every year thereafter for
30 residents and \$200 for 1993, \$202 for 1994, \$300 for 1995 and
31 every year thereafter for nonresidents and aliens. While hunting
32 moose, each nonresident or alien hunter, both permittee and
33 subpermittee, must be in possession of a valid Maine nonresident
34 or alien big game hunting license, whichever is applicable.

35

36 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7468, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 95,
37 §1, is amended to read:

38 **4. Hunting permits.** The commissioner may establish the
39 number of wild turkey permits for each wild turkey hunting zone
40 and may issue those permits annually. ~~No more than 10% of the~~
41 The percentage of total wild turkey permits may--be issued to
42 nonresident or and alien hunters may not exceed the percentage of
43 all wild turkey permit applicants who are nonresidents and aliens
44 and no more than 10% of the total number of wild turkey hunting
45 permits may be issued to nonresident or alien hunters. A person
46 whose application is selected may obtain a wild turkey hunting
47 permit upon presentation of proof that he the person possesses:
48

49

