

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1210

S.P. 372

In Senate, February 28, 2001

An Act to Allow the Transfer of Antlerless Deer Permits.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis.
Cosponsored by Representative SAVAGE of Buxton and
Senators: CARPENTER of York, FERGUSON of Oxford, KILKELLY of Lincoln,
KNEELAND of Aroostook, TURNER of Cumberland, WOODCOCK of Franklin,
Representatives: TOBIN of Dexter, USHER of Westbrook.

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 1999, c.
4 323, §1 and affected by §3, 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 average percentage of applicants for
39 antlerless deer permits over the previous 3 years
40 who were nonresidents or aliens; and

42 (b) No more than 15% of the antlerless deer
43 permits issued in any one district or in any one
44 zone may be issued to nonresident and alien
45 hunters.

48 (5) An antlerless deer permit system adopted by the
49 commissioner pursuant to this section may include a
50 provision giving special consideration to landowners

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

9
10 A junior licensed hunter ~~or a person 65 years of age or~~
11 ~~elder~~ may take an antlerless deer, if an ~~adult who holds a~~ holder of
12 a valid antlerless deer permit transfers the
13 permit to the junior licensed hunter ~~or person 65 years of~~
14 ~~age or elder~~ by identifying the name, age and address of the
15 transferee on the permit as well as any other information
16 reasonably requested by the commissioner and then returns
17 the permit to the department prior to the start of the
18 firearm season on deer. The commissioner shall record the
19 transfer and return the permit to the ~~junior hunter or~~
20 ~~person 65 years of age or elder~~ transferee. A valid permit
21 must be in the possession of the transferee to take an
22 antlerless deer. If ~~the adult~~ a holder of an antlerless
23 deer permit transfers the permit to ~~the junior hunter or~~
24 ~~person 65 years of age or older, that adult~~ another hunter,
25 the original holder is prohibited from taking an antlerless
26 deer.

28 SUMMARY

29 This bill allows a holder of an antlerless deer permit to
30 transfer the permit to another hunter prior to the start of
31 hunting season.
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