

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 325

H.P. 239

House of Representatives, January 31, 2017

An Act To Amend the Process for Distributing Any-deer Permits

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative RILEY of Jay.
Cosponsored by Senator KEIM of Oxford and
Representatives: DUCHESNE of Hudson, GOLDEN of Lewiston, HANLEY of Pittston.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11152, sub-§1-B** is enacted to read:

3 **1-B. Permits; public chance drawing.** If permits that allow hunting antlerless deer
4 are issued under this section, the commissioner shall issue the permits in accordance with
5 rules adopted by the commissioner that establish a public chance drawing to determine
6 which applicants are issued the permits. The rules establishing the public chance drawing
7 must include provisions for awarding to applicants who are not selected for a permit
8 points that increase the applicants' chances of being selected in the subsequent
9 consecutive year. This subsection does not apply to a person with a special antlerless
10 deer permit under subsection 7.

11 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11152, sub-§9** is enacted to read:

12 **9. Veterans.** Notwithstanding subsection 1-B, the commissioner shall issue
13 antlerless deer permits, the number of which must be established by the commissioner by
14 rule adopted each year based upon the deer population, to veterans who are eligible to
15 obtain the permit and who were honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the
16 United States or the National Guard.

17 **Sec. 3. Rules.** The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall adopt rules
18 no later than November 1, 2017 that establish a public chance drawing to determine
19 which applicants are issued an antlerless deer permit pursuant to the Maine Revised
20 Statutes, Title 12, section 11152, subsection 1-B.

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, if antlerless
23 deer permits are issued, to issue antlerless deer permits to applicants who are chosen
24 through a public chance drawing. The commissioner is required to adopt rules by
25 November 1, 2017 establishing a public chance drawing for antlerless deer permits,
26 including provisions for awarding to applicants who are not selected for a permit points
27 that increase the applicants' chances of being selected in a subsequent consecutive year.

28 The bill requires the commissioner to issue antlerless deer permits to veterans, who
29 are not required to participate in the public chance drawing. The number of permits
30 issued to veterans is determined by the commissioner annually based upon the deer
31 population.