

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 695

H.P. 486

House of Representatives, February 28, 2017

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**An Act To Double the Number of Moose Permits Available for  
Auction by Conservation Organizations**

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative MARTIN of Sinclair.  
Cosponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook and  
Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, POULIOT of Augusta, STANLEY of Medway,  
THERIAULT of China.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§11**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 370, §9, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 **11. Auction of moose hunting permits to fund youth conservation education**  
5 **programs.** Notwithstanding subsection 1, the commissioner may issue not more than ~~10~~  
6 20 moose hunting permits each year through public auction in accordance with this  
7 subsection.

8 A. Each moose hunting permit issued under this subsection must be awarded through  
9 public auction to the applicant who submits the highest bid.

10 B. A person who applies for a moose hunting permit under this subsection is subject  
11 to the eligibility provisions of subsection 5, except that a successful applicant is not  
12 required to wait 3 years in order to obtain another permit.

13 C. An eligible person wishing to apply for a permit under this subsection must  
14 submit a written application in such form as the commissioner may require. The  
15 application must be accompanied by a bidding fee of \$25, which, except as otherwise  
16 provided in paragraph D, is nonrefundable. The commissioner may waive the  
17 requirements of this paragraph when, as provided in paragraph G, the commissioner  
18 enters into a contract with a conservation organization to auction the permits.

19 D. An eligible person may apply for a moose hunting permit both through the public  
20 chance drawing and in accordance with this subsection. If a person is selected to  
21 receive a moose hunting permit as a result of the public chance drawing, that person  
22 is no longer eligible to obtain a permit under this subsection and the bidding fee  
23 submitted by that person must be refunded.

24 E. A moose hunting permit issued under this subsection is valid in the district  
25 designated by the permittee. This designation must be made within 30 days after the  
26 permit is awarded.

27 F. A person who is awarded a moose hunting permit under this subsection may select  
28 a subpermittee to participate in the moose hunt as provided in subsection 7.

29 G. The commissioner may enter into a contract with a conservation organization  
30 whose goals and objectives are not inconsistent with those of the department to  
31 advertise this process of issuing permits, auction the permits and collect revenues.

32 H. Except as otherwise provided, the provisions of this Part relating to moose are  
33 applicable to the hunting of moose with a permit awarded under this subsection.

34 I. The commissioner may adopt rules necessary for the proper administration,  
35 implementation, enforcement and interpretation of this subsection. Rules adopted  
36 pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter  
37 375, subchapter 2-A.

38 J. Notwithstanding this subsection, the total number of moose hunting permits issued  
39 each year must be in accordance with section 11552, subsection 2.

1 K. The commissioner may decline to issue any permit or any number of permits  
2 issuable pursuant to this subsection if, in the commissioner's opinion, the auction bids  
3 received do not reflect the public value anticipated to meet the goals of this  
4 subsection. Any permit or permits not issued under this subsection must be drawn in  
5 the public chance drawing pursuant to subsection 9.

6 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§11, ¶L** is enacted to read:

7 L. The commissioner shall disburse at least 50% of the revenues received under  
8 paragraph G to one or more conservation organizations for the purpose of operating a  
9 youth day camp.

10 **SUMMARY**

11 This bill doubles the number of moose permits for auction by conservation  
12 organizations from 10 permits to 20 permits and directs the Commissioner of Inland  
13 Fisheries and Wildlife to disburse at least 50% of the revenue from the auction to  
14 conservation organizations for the purpose of operating youth day camps.