

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2020

Legislative Document

No. 1920

H.P. 1368

House of Representatives, January 6, 2020

An Act To Amend Maine's Fish and Wildlife Licensing and Registration Laws

Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 203.
Received by the Clerk of the House on January 2, 2020. Referred to the Committee on
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint
Rule 401.

Handwritten signature of Robert B. Hunt in cursive.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative NADEAU of Winslow.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10853, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and
3 affected by c. 614, §9, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

4 **3. Paraplegics.** A resident paraplegic or a nonresident paraplegic who is a resident
5 of another state may obtain upon application, at no cost, all hunting, trapping and fishing
6 licenses, including permits, stamps and other permission needed to hunt, trap and fish. A
7 license holder under this subsection who qualifies to hunt during the special season on
8 deer under section 11153 and who meets the eligibility requirements of section 11106
9 must have included in that person's license one antlerless deer permit and one either-sex
10 permit. The commissioner shall issue all fishing, trapping and hunting licenses and
11 permits applied for under this subsection if the commissioner determines the applicant
12 meets the requirements of this subsection and is not otherwise ineligible to hold that
13 permit or license. For the purposes of this subsection, "paraplegic" means a person who
14 has lost, or who has permanently lost the use of, both lower extremities.

15 A license issued to a resident paraplegic under this subsection remains valid for the life of
16 the license holder if the license holder continues to be a resident as that term is defined
17 under section 10001, subsection 53 and the license is not revoked or suspended. A
18 nonresident paraplegic may apply for and be qualified to be issued the complimentary
19 licenses and permits referred to in this subsection as long as the state where the person
20 resides provides a reciprocal privilege for resident paraplegics of this State.

21 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§17** is enacted to read:

22 **17. Moose permit deferment; significant medical illness.** The commissioner may
23 authorize a person who holds a valid moose permit to defer the permit until the next
24 moose hunting season in circumstances in which the permit holder or an immediate
25 family member, as defined in subsection 15, of the permit holder has a significant
26 medical illness that would prevent the permit holder from participating in the moose hunt.

27 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §13058, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

28 **4. Exemption.** A motorboat, personal watercraft or seaplane operating on interstate
29 waters shared with the State of New Hampshire is exempt from subsection 3 if it is
30 displaying a lake and river protection sticker issued by the State of New Hampshire that
31 is equivalent to the lake and river protection sticker issued by the State as long as the
32 State of New Hampshire enacts legislation with substantially the same lake and river
33 protection sticker requirements under this section giving a reciprocal exemption to a
34 motorboat, personal watercraft or seaplane displaying the State's lake and river protection
35 sticker.

36 **SUMMARY**

37 This bill:

38 1. Amends the law governing the complimentary license package for a person who
39 has lost, or who has permanently lost the use of, both lower extremities to provide that

1 such a person may, upon application, at no cost, obtain all hunting, trapping and fishing
2 licenses, including permits, stamps and other permission needed to hunt, trap and fish;

3 2. Provides the commissioner authority to defer a moose permit for one season when
4 a moose permit holder or immediate family member has a significant medical illness; and

5 3. Exempts from the State's lake and river protection sticker requirement New
6 Hampshire watercraft and seaplanes operating on interstate waters between Maine and
7 New Hampshire as long as New Hampshire reciprocates.