

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 90

H.P. 58

House of Representatives, January 9, 2023

**An Act to Allow Persons 70 Years of Age or Older to Use a
Subpermittee to Harvest Deer**

(EMERGENCY)

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative STROUT of Harrington.

1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** this bill authorizes a licensed hunter 70 years of age or older to apply for a
4 permit allowing the designation of a subpermittee to harvest deer on the permittee's behalf;
5 and

6 **Whereas,** the earliest date for hunting deer in Maine is expected to be in early
7 September of 2023 with the first day of the 2023 expanded archery season; and

8 **Whereas,** this legislation must take effect in time for the start of the next deer hunting
9 season; and

10 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
11 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
12 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
13 therefore,

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

15 **Sec. 1.** 12 MRSA §11164 is enacted to read:

16 **§11164. Authority for persons 70 years of age or older to use subpermittee to harvest**
17 **deer**

18 **1. Designation of subpermittee; permit.** A person 70 years of age or older who
19 possesses a valid license to hunt may obtain a permit to designate a subpermittee to harvest
20 deer on behalf of the permittee.

21 **2. Application procedure.** An applicant for a permit under this section shall file a
22 written application for a permit on a form furnished by the commissioner. The application
23 must be accompanied by an application fee of \$1.

24 **3. Subpermittees.** An applicant for a permit under this section shall indicate on the
25 application filed pursuant to subsection 2 the name of a subpermittee-designate who
26 possesses a valid license to hunt. Thirty days prior to the start of the applicable deer hunting
27 season, the subpermittee-designate becomes a subpermittee. The permittee may authorize
28 the subpermittee to hunt deer with the permittee and to harvest deer on behalf of the
29 permittee. The permittee may choose not to authorize a subpermittee to hunt deer with the
30 permittee and to harvest deer on the permittee's behalf.

31 **4. Subpermittee bag limit.** The hunting or killing of deer pursuant to this section by
32 a subpermittee does not count toward the subpermittee's bag limit pursuant to section
33 11501.

34 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation
35 takes effect when approved.

36 **SUMMARY**

37 This bill authorizes a licensed hunter 70 years of age or older to apply for a permit
38 allowing the designation of a subpermittee to harvest deer on the permittee's behalf. Acting
39 as a designated subpermittee does not limit the subpermittee's ability to hunt deer pursuant
40 to the subpermittee's own license.