

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

Legislative Document

No. 2055

H.P. 1379

House of Representatives, December 11, 2025

An Act to Amend or Correct Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws

Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 203.
Received by the Clerk of the House on December 9, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rlt B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§16**, as amended by PL 2025, c. 289, §2 and
3 affected by §3, is further amended to read:

4 **16. Moose permit transfer; disabled veterans.** A person who holds a valid moose
5 permit may transfer, in accordance with this subsection, that permit to a disabled veteran
6 who meets the eligibility and permit requirements under this section and section 10853,
7 subsection 4 and who is not otherwise prohibited from holding a moose permit. The
8 commissioner may authorize a permit holder to transfer the moose permit to a disabled
9 veteran identified by the permit holder or the permit holder may return the permit to the
10 department, which, in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner, shall provide
11 for the transfer of the permit to a disabled veteran. A transferor and a transferee of the
12 permit are subject to the elimination of any accumulated points under subsection 8 and the
13 transferee is subject to the 3-year ineligibility period under subsection 5. Rules adopted
14 under this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375,
15 subchapter 2-A.

16 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §12663-B, sub-§4, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2025, c. 132, §6, is
17 amended to read:

18 A. A person may not sell or offer for sale a lead sinker or ~~unpainted~~ lead jig that:
19 weighs one ounce or less or measures 2 1/2 inches or less in length.

20 ~~(1) Weighs one ounce or less; or~~

21 ~~(2) Measures 2 1/2 inches or less in length.~~

22 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §12664, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2025, c. 132, §7, is further
23 amended to read:

24 **2. Unlawful use.** This subsection governs the use of lead sinkers and lead jigs.

25 ~~A. A person may not:~~

26 ~~(3) Beginning September 1, 2026, use a painted lead jig.~~

27 A-1. A Prior to September 1, 2026, a person may not use a lead sinker or unpainted
28 lead jig that:

29 (1) Weighs one ounce or less; or

30 (2) Measures 2 1/2 inches or less in length.

31 A-2. Beginning September 1, 2026, a person may not use a lead sinker or lead jig that:

32 (1) Weighs one ounce or less; or

33 (2) Measures 2 1/2 inches or less in length.

34 B. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of
35 not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

36 C. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having
37 committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period
38 commits a Class E crime.

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SUMMARY

This bill clarifies that a veteran transferee of a moose permit is subject to the 3-year ineligibility period to obtain another permit. The bill also reorganizes the statutes governing the use of lead jigs and lead sinkers and prohibits the use of certain lead jigs beginning September 1, 2026.