

131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

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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.

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 6 Whereas, the earliest date for hunting deer in Maine is expected to be in early September of 2023 with the first day of the 2023 expanded archery season; and 7 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 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, 12 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 18 1. Designation of subpermittee; permit. A person 70 years of age or older who possesses a valid license to hunt may obtain a permit to designate a subpermittee to harvest 19 20 deer on behalf of the permittee. 2. Application procedure. An applicant for a permit under this section shall file a 21 written application for a permit on a form furnished by the commissioner. The application 22 must be accompanied by an application fee of \$1. 23 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 season, the subpermittee-designate becomes a subpermittee. The permittee may authorize 27 the subpermittee to hunt deer with the permittee and to harvest deer on behalf of the 28 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. **SUMMARY** 36 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.