

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 6 to 8 and inserting the following:

**Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §11108-B** is enacted to read:

**§ 11108-B. Apprenticeship hunter license restrictions**

**1. Supervisor required.** A holder of an apprenticeship hunter license may not hunt other than in the presence of a person at least 18 years of age who holds a valid Maine hunting license.

A. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$1,000 may be adjudged.

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

**2. Supervisor eligibility and responsibility.** A supervisor must have held a valid hunting license for the prior 5 consecutive years to be qualified to supervise a holder of an apprenticeship license. A supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the holder of an apprenticeship hunter license follows safe hunting protocol and the laws under this Part. A supervisor may not intentionally permit a person hunting under an apprenticeship hunter license with that supervisor to violate subsection 1.

A. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$500 must be adjudged.

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

**3. Eligibility.** A person who is 16 years of age or older and not a holder of a valid hunting license or junior hunting license may hold an apprenticeship hunter license. A person may not be issued an apprenticeship hunter license after having held an apprenticeship hunter license under section 11109.

**4. Expiration of apprenticeship hunter license.** An apprenticeship hunter license is valid for up to 12 calendar months and expires on December 31st.

**5. Definition.** For purposes of this section, "in the presence of " means in visual and voice contact without the use of visual or audio enhancement devices, including binoculars and citizen band radios. For purposes of this section, "supervisor" means a person or persons who are 18 years of age or older, hold a valid Maine hunting license and are hunting with a person holding an apprenticeship hunter license.

**Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§3, ¶E-1** is enacted to read:

E-1. A resident apprenticeship hunter license, which includes a bear hunting permit and a wild turkey hunting permit under sections 11151 and 11155 respectively, is \$21.

**Sec. 8. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§3, ¶O** is enacted to read:

O. A nonresident small game apprenticeship hunter license, which permits the hunting of all legal species except deer, bear, turkey, moose, raccoon and bobcat, is \$67.

**Sec. 9. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§3, ¶P** is enacted to read:

P. A nonresident big game apprenticeship hunter license, which permits the hunting of all legal species and includes a bear hunting permit and a wild turkey hunting permit under sections 11151 and 11155 respectively, is \$102.'

## SUMMARY

This amendment modifies the apprenticeship hunter license restriction provisions of the bill to:

1. Remove provisions that allow a person who does not hold a Maine hunting license but has passed a hunter safety course to serve as a supervisor to an apprentice hunter;
2. Increase the fine for a person hunting under an apprenticeship hunter license without being in the presence of a supervisor from a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 to a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$1,000;
3. Provide that a supervisor must have held a hunting license for the prior 5 years to be eligible to be a supervisor and provide that the supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the apprentice hunter follows safe hunting protocol and hunting laws;
4. Provide that a supervisor may not intentionally permit a person hunting under an apprenticeship hunter license with that supervisor to hunt outside of that supervisor's presence and make a violation of that requirement a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$500 must be imposed;
5. Provide that a person is eligible to hold an apprenticeship hunter license only once and that the license expires on December 31st;
6. Provide that a resident and a nonresident big game apprenticeship hunter license each includes a bear hunting permit and a wild turkey hunting permit and that the resident license costs \$21 and the nonresident license costs \$102; and
7. Provide for a nonresident small game apprenticeship hunter license for \$67.