

132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1430

H.P. 939

House of Representatives, April 3, 2025

An Act to Promote the Welfare of Disabled Veterans Through the Transfer of Moose Permits

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

ROBERT B. HUNT

R(+ B. Hunt

Clerk

Presented by Representative PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft. (BY REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook and
Representatives: CHAPMAN of Auburn, DILL of Old Town, FREDETTE of Newport,
MCINTYRE of Lowell, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, THORNE of Carmel, WHITE of Guilford,
WHITE of Ellsworth.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§16, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 191, §1, is amended to read:

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

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§16-A is enacted to read:

16-A. Moose permit transfer; nonprofit veteran aid organization transfer to disabled veterans. A nonprofit veteran aid organization based in this State that promotes the mental and emotional welfare of veterans in this State by providing outdoor opportunities may apply for a moose permit in order to transfer that permit, in accordance with this subsection, to a disabled veteran who is a resident of this State, who meets the eligibility and permit requirements under this section and section 10853, subsection 4 and who is not otherwise prohibited from holding a moose permit. The commissioner may authorize the transfer of a moose permit obtained under this subsection to a disabled veteran identified by the organization, or the organization may return the permit to the department, which, in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner, shall provide for the transfer of the permit to a disabled veteran. The nonprofit veteran aid organization is eligible to apply for a permit and start accumulating points under subsection 8 the year following the transfer.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§16-B is enacted to read:

16-B. Moose permit transfer; nonprofit veteran aid organization employee and volunteer transfer to disabled veterans. An employee or volunteer of a nonprofit veteran aid organization based in this State that promotes the mental and emotional welfare of veterans in this State by providing outdoor opportunities who holds a valid moose permit may transfer, in accordance with this subsection, that permit to a disabled veteran who is a resident of this State, who meets the eligibility and permit requirements under this section and section 10853, subsection 4 and who is not otherwise prohibited from holding a moose permit. The commissioner may authorize the permit holder to transfer the moose permit to a disabled veteran identified by the permit holder, or the permit holder may return the permit to the department, which, in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner, shall provide for the transfer of the permit to a disabled veteran. The employee or volunteer of the nonprofit veteran aid organization based in this State is eligible to apply for a permit and start accumulating points under subsection 8 the year following the transfer.

Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§16-C is enacted to read:

16-C. Moose permit transfer; registered Maine guide transfer to disabled veterans. A registered Maine guide who is a resident of this State and who holds a valid moose permit may transfer, in accordance with this subsection, that permit to a disabled veteran who is a resident of this State, who meets the eligibility and permit requirements under this section and section 10853, subsection 4 and who is not otherwise prohibited from holding a moose permit. The commissioner may authorize the permit holder to transfer the moose permit to a disabled veteran identified by the permit holder, or the permit holder may return the permit to the department, which, in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner, shall provide for the transfer of the permit to a disabled veteran. If the registered Maine guide transferred that guide's permit without remuneration, that guide is eligible to apply for a permit and start accumulating points under subsection 8 the year following the transfer.

13 SUMMARY

This bill amends the laws governing moose permit transfers to disabled veterans by the following organizations or individuals if they meet certain eligibility requirements:

- 1. Nonprofit veteran aid organizations based in this State that promote the mental and emotional welfare of veterans in this State by providing outdoor opportunities;
- 2. The employees and volunteers of nonprofit veteran aid organizations based in this State that promote the mental and emotional welfare of veterans in this State by providing outdoor opportunities; and
 - 3. Registered Maine guides who are residents of this State.

The bill clarifies that if an eligible organization or individual transfers a moose permit to a disabled veteran, the eligible organization or individual is able to apply for a moose permit again the following year and may also start accumulating points for the public chance drawing for a moose permit the following year.