An Act to Increase Communication Between the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Lifetime License Holders by Requiring Free License Renewals Under Certain Circumstances

Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 204. Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

Presented by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10851-A is enacted to read:

§10851-A. Annual renewal of lifetime licenses required

1. Annual renewal required. A person with a license purchased under section 10851 shall notify the department of the person's intent to hunt, trap or fish in accordance with that license by completing in that year a renewal process with the department. The department may not assess a fee for a renewal completed under this section. The department may adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

2. Civil violation. A person who violates subsection 1 commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than $100 and not more than $500 may be adjudged.

3. Criminal offense. A person who violates subsection 1 after having been previously adjudicated of a 3rd or subsequent violation of subsection 1 within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

SUMMARY

This bill requires holders of a lifetime license to hunt, trap or fish to notify the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in each year the person intends to use the license by completing a renewal process with the department at no charge.