

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

## **An Act To Establish the Moose Biologist Fund To Support a Moose Biologist Position**

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

**Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10263** is enacted to read:

### **§ 10263. Moose Biologist Fund**

The Moose Biologist Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established within the department as a nonlapsing fund to be used by the commissioner to fund a moose biologist position within the department. One dollar from each moose hunting permit application fee under section 11154, subsection 6 must be deposited in the fund. The commissioner may accept and deposit into the fund monetary gifts, donations or other contributions from public or private sources for the purposes specified in this section. The fund must be held separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts.

**Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§6**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 186, §4, is further amended to read:

**6. Application procedure.** An eligible person wishing to apply for a permit must file a written application for a permit on a form furnished by the commissioner. The application fee is nonrefundable. A person may file no more than one application. A person who submits more than one application is disqualified from the selection of permittees. The application must be accompanied by an application fee of:

A. For a resident:

- (1) ~~Seven~~Eight dollars for a one-chance application;
- (2) ~~Twelve~~Thirteen dollars for a 3-chance application. A resident must possess a valid big game hunting license to be eligible to purchase a 3-chance application; and
- (3) ~~Twenty-two~~Twenty-three dollars for a 6-chance application. A resident must possess a valid big game hunting license to be eligible to purchase a 6-chance application; or

B. For a nonresident:

- (1) ~~Fifteen~~Sixteen dollars for a one-chance application;
- (2) ~~Twenty-five~~Twenty-six dollars for a 3-chance application;

(3) ~~Thirty-five~~Thirty-six dollars for a 6-chance application; and

(4) ~~Fifty-five~~Fifty-six dollars for a 10-chance application; multiple 10-chance options may be purchased.

A clerk or agent appointed by the commissioner under section 10801 may process an application under this subsection. The clerk or agent shall charge a fee of \$2 for each application under this subsection processed by that clerk or agent.

### **SUMMARY**

This bill establishes the Moose Biologist Fund to fund a moose biologist position within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Moose hunting permit application fees are increased by \$1 and that amount is dedicated to the Moose Biologist Fund.