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An Act To Reduce Nonresident Hunting and Fishing License Fees and To Add Archery Hunting to Combination Licenses

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

1. License required. Except as otherwise authorized pursuant to this Part, a person may not engage in an activity for which a license may be issued under this section unless that person has a valid license issued under this section. Each day a person violates this subsection that person commits a Class E crime for which a minimum fine of \$50 and an amount equal to twice the applicable license fee must be imposed. Notwithstanding section 10001, subsection 53, a nonresident who owns real property in the State and is current with property tax requirements regarding that property is deemed a resident for the purpose of this section.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2009, c. 213, Pt. OO, §2, is further amended to read:

3. Hunting licenses; combination licenses; fees. Hunting licenses, combination licenses and fees are as follows.

A. A resident junior hunting license, for a person 10 years of age or older and under 16 years of age, is \$7. Notwithstanding the permit fees established in subchapter 3, a resident junior hunting license includes all permits, stamps and other permissions needed to hunt at no additional cost.

B. A resident hunting license, for a person 16 years of age or older, is \$25.

C. A resident small game hunting license, for a person 16 years of age or older, which permits hunting for all legal species except deer, bear, turkey, moose, raccoon and bobcat, is \$14.

D. A resident combination hunting ~~and~~ fishing and archery hunting license is \$42.

E. ~~A resident combination archery hunting and fishing license is \$42.~~

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 \$25.

F. A nonresident junior hunting license, for a person 10 years of age or older and under 16 years of age, is ~~\$34~~\$26.

G. A nonresident small game hunting license, which permits hunting of all legal species except deer, bear, turkey, moose, raccoon and bobcat, is ~~\$74~~\$56.

H. A nonresident 3-day small game hunting license, valid for 3 consecutive hunting days, which permits hunting of all legal species except deer, bear, turkey, moose, raccoon and bobcat for the 72-hour period specified on the license, is ~~\$49~~\$37.

I. A nonresident big game hunting license, which permits hunting of all legal species subject to the permit requirements in chapter 915, subchapter 3, is ~~\$114~~\$86.

J. A nonresident combination hunting ~~and, fishing~~ and archery hunting license is ~~\$149~~\$112.

K. An alien small game hunting license, which permits hunting of all species except deer, bear, turkey, moose, raccoon and bobcat, is \$79.

L. An alien big game hunting license, which permits hunting of all legal species subject to the permit requirements in chapter 915, subchapter 3, is \$139.

M. An alien combination hunting ~~and, fishing~~ and archery hunting license is \$190.

N. A license to use leashed dogs to track wounded animals, which permits a person to use one or more leashed dogs to track a lawfully wounded deer, moose or bear, is \$27.

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 ~~\$74~~\$56.

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 ~~\$114~~\$86.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§5, ¶B, as amended by PL 2009, c. 213, Pt. OO, §3, is further amended to read:

B. A nonresident muzzle-loading hunting permit is ~~\$69~~\$52; and

Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§7, as amended by PL 2009, c. 213, Pt. OO, §4, is further amended to read:

7. Archery hunting licenses; combination licenses; fees. Archery hunting licenses, combination licenses and fees are as follows:

A. A resident archery license is \$25;

B. A resident combination hunting, fishing and archery hunting ~~and fishing~~ license is \$42;

C. A nonresident archery license is ~~\$74~~\$56; and

D. An alien archery license is \$84.

Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§9, ¶B, as amended by PL 2009, c. 213, Pt. OO, §5, is further amended to read:

B. A nonresident crossbow hunting license is ~~\$55~~\$41; and

Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §12501, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

1. License required. Except as otherwise permitted pursuant to this Part, a person may not fish for, transport or possess fish without a valid license issued under this section. Notwithstanding section 10001, subsection 53, a nonresident who owns real property in the State and is current with property tax requirements regarding that property is deemed a resident for the purpose of this section.

Each day a person violates this subsection, that person commits a Class E crime for which a minimum fine of \$50 and an amount equal to twice the applicable license fee must be imposed.

Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §12501, sub-§4, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

A. A resident who possesses a one-day or 3-day fishing license may exchange it in the municipality in which that person resides for an annual resident fishing license or a resident combination hunting, fishing and archery hunting license upon the payment of:

(1) The difference between the fee for the one-day or 3-day license and the fee for the annual resident fishing license or resident combination hunting, fishing and archery hunting license; and

(2) Two dollars to the clerk or issuing agent.

Sec. 8. 12 MRSA §12501, sub-§4, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

B. A nonresident who possesses a 15-day nonresident fishing license may exchange it for an annual nonresident license upon the additional payment of:

(1) Nine dollars;

(2) The difference between the fee for the 15-day license and the fee for the annual license; and

(3) Two dollars to the clerk or issuing agent.

Sec. 9. 12 MRSA §12501, sub-§6, as amended by PL 2009, c. 213, Pt. OO, §11, is further amended to read:

6. Schedule of fees. The fees for fishing licenses are as follows.

A. A resident fishing license is \$25.

B. A resident combination hunting ~~and~~, fishing and archery hunting license is \$42.

C. ~~A resident combination archery hunting and fishing license is \$42.~~

D. A nonresident junior fishing license, for persons 12 years of age or older and under 16 years of age, is ~~\$16~~\$12.

E. A 3-day fishing license for a resident or nonresident, valid for the 72-hour period specified on the license, is ~~\$23~~\$17.

F. A nonresident 7-day fishing license, valid for 7 days from date indicated on license, is ~~\$43~~\$32.

G. A nonresident 15-day fishing license, valid for 15 days from date indicated on license, is ~~\$47~~\$35.

H. A nonresident ~~season~~annual fishing license for persons 16 years of age or older is ~~\$64~~\$48.

I. An alien season fishing license for persons 16 years of age or older is \$84.

J. A one-day fishing license for a resident or nonresident, valid for the 24-hour period indicated on license, is ~~\$11~~\$8.

SUMMARY

This bill:

1. Provides that a nonresident who owns real property in the State may purchase hunting or fishing licenses for the same fee as a resident;
2. Adds archery hunting to the hunting and fishing combination license; and
3. Reduces nonresident hunting and fishing license fees by approximately 25%.