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INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " " to H.P. 208, L.D. 275, Bill, "An Act To Expand Disabled Veteran Eligibility for Complimentary Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Licenses"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10853, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2015, c. 281, Pt. C, §3, is further amended to read:

4. Disabled veteran. A resident disabled veteran or a nonresident disabled veteran who is a resident of New Hampshire or Vermont another state may obtain upon application, at no cost, all hunting, trapping and fishing licenses, including permits, stamps and other permission needed to hunt, trap and fish, and, upon meeting the qualifications as established in section 12853, subsection 4, a guide license. A license holder under this subsection who qualifies to hunt during the special season on deer under section 11153 and who meets the eligibility requirements of section 11106 must be issued one antlerless deer permit and one either-sex permit. The commissioner shall issue all fishing, trapping and hunting licenses and permits requested under this subsection if the commissioner determines the applicant is a disabled veteran meets the requirements of this subsection and is not otherwise ineligible to hold that permit or license. For the purposes of this subsection, "disabled veteran" means a person who:

A. Is a resident as defined in section 10001, subsection 53 or is a resident of New Hampshire or Vermont;

B. Is a veteran as defined in Title 37 B, section 505, subsection 2, paragraph A, subparagraph (3) Was honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard; and

C. Has a service-connected disability evaluated at 50% or more.

Each application must be accompanied by satisfactory evidence that the applicant meets the requirements of this subsection. An applicant for a license or permit under this section is subject to the provisions of this Part, including, but not limited to, a lottery or

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1 drawing system for issuing a particular license or permit. A permit or license issued
2 under this subsection remains valid for the life of the permit or license holder, as long as
3 the permit or license holder continues to ~~satisfy the residency requirement in section~~
4 ~~40001, subsection 53~~ remain a resident of this State or another state and the permit or
5 license issued under this subsection is not revoked or suspended. For a ~~resident of New~~
6 ~~Hampshire or Vermont~~ nonresident to be eligible under this subsection, that ~~resident's~~
7 nonresident's state must have a reciprocal agreement with this State.'

8

SUMMARY

9 This amendment, which is the majority report, allows a nonresident veteran with a
10 disability evaluated at 50% or more to obtain at no cost all hunting, trapping and fishing
11 licenses and other provisions in Maine, if the nonresident's state has a reciprocal
12 agreement with Maine. The amendment removes from the bill the requirement that a
13 nonresident veteran hold a valid hunting, trapping or fishing license in the nonresident's
14 state.