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Date: (Filing No. H-)

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1204, L.D. 1879, “An Act to Align Laws Governing Crossbow Hunting with Those Governing Archery Hunting”

Amend the bill by inserting after section 5 the following:

'Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §10108, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

6. Archery hunting education program. The commissioner shall establish a program for training individuals in safe and responsible archery hunting skills and behavior. This program includes instruction ~~in~~ on all types of archery equipment, fisheries and wildlife laws, rights of landowners and hunters and appropriate principles of wildlife management. The commissioner may charge an enrollment fee of up to \$10 per person to help defray the costs of this program. The commissioner may cooperate with any public or private association dedicated to responsible and safe archery hunting to establish this program.

In establishing the program, the commissioner shall:

- A. Prescribe the qualifications of instructors;
- B. Provide liability insurance for each instructor authorized by the commissioner to conduct training under the program protecting that person from liability for damages during the time when instruction is being given. The cost of this insurance must be borne by the State and charged against funds credited to the department;
- C. Prescribe the type and length of instruction and the time and place of examinations; and
- D. Issue a certificate of competency to individuals who successfully complete the examination.

Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §10108, sub-§6-A, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 419, §1 and affected by §12, is repealed.'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 12 and inserting the following:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 **'Sec. 12. 12 MRSA §11106, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 281, Pt. D, §1 and
2 c. 301, §10, is further amended to read:

3 **1. Age requirement.** A person is eligible to obtain an archery hunting license as
4 provided in this section.

5 A. A resident or nonresident 16 years of age or older who has satisfied the requirements
6 of subsection 2 or holds an apprenticeship hunter license, or who is exempt under
7 subsection 3, may obtain an archery hunting license to hunt with ~~bow and arrow~~ archery
8 equipment in accordance with section 10952 from the commissioner or the
9 commissioner's authorized agent.

10 B. A resident or nonresident under 16 years of age may hunt with ~~bow and arrow~~
11 archery equipment if that person holds a valid junior hunting license.

12 Beginning January 1, 2016, for those persons who obtain a junior hunting license and turn
13 16 years of age during the same calendar year, the archery hunting license is included even
14 after the person has turned 16 years of age as long as that person is hunting on that person's
15 valid junior hunting license and not longer than the remainder of the calendar year for
16 which the license is issued.

17 **Sec. 13. 12 MRSA §11106, sub-§2**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2013, c. 588,
18 Pt. A, §12, is amended to read:

19 **2. Archery hunter education requirements.** Except as provided in paragraph A and
20 subsection 3, a person who applies for an archery hunting license other than a junior hunting
21 license or an apprenticeship hunter license must submit proof of having successfully
22 completed an archery hunter education course as described in section 10108 or an
23 equivalent archery hunter education course or satisfactory evidence of having previously
24 held a valid adult archery hunting license issued specifically for the purpose of hunting
25 with bow and arrow in this State or any other state, province or country in any year after
26 1979 or satisfactory evidence of previously holding a crossbow permit issued in this State
27 as of December 31, 2023.

28 When proof or evidence cannot be otherwise provided, the applicant may substitute a
29 signed affidavit that the applicant has previously held the required adult archery hunting
30 license or has successfully completed the required archery hunter education course.

31 A. A person who is an enrolled member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot
32 Nation, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians or the ~~Aroostook Band of Miamaes~~
33 Mi'kmaq Nation who presents certification from the respective reservation governor or
34 the ~~Aroostook Miemae~~ Mi'kmaq Nation Tribal Council stating that the person is an
35 enrolled member of a federally recognized nation, band or tribe listed in this paragraph
36 is exempt from the requirements of this subsection.'

37 Amend the bill by striking out all of section 17.

38 Amend the bill by striking out all of section 20 and inserting the following:

39 **'Sec. 20. 12 MRSA §11212-A**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 325, §4, is further
40 amended by amending the section headnote to read:

41 **§11212-A. Having a loaded firearm or crossbow in a motor vehicle or hunting or**
42 **shooting from a motor vehicle or motorboat with a firearm or archery**
43 **equipment**

