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INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

132ND LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 904, L.D. 2217, “An Act Related to the Electronic Tagging of Deer”

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 1 and 2 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10206, sub-§10, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

10. Pheasant hunting Certain hunting license and permit revenues. Revenues All revenues generated from the sale of pheasant hunting permits under section 11156 and \$2 from each resident hunting license and \$4 from each nonresident hunting license issued pursuant to section 11109 must be deposited into a separate account within the department, to be known as the Pheasant Resource Management Fund and referred to in this subsection as the "fund." The fund is nonlapsing. The fund may be used only for costs directly related to the administration of the pheasant program, including grants to a qualified rod and gun club or qualified hunting-oriented organization to help defray the costs of purchasing and raising pheasants in accordance with an agreement with the commissioner entered into in accordance with section 10108, subsection 9. The fund may also be used to administer the deer registration program in accordance with section 12301-C, and funds from the fund may be used to collect biological information from harvested deer. Two dollars must be transferred from the fund to the Maine Deer Management Fund established under section 10264 for each registered deer pursuant to chapter 919.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10264, last ¶, as amended by PL 2023, c. 593, §1, is further amended to read:

Notwithstanding section 10801, subsection 4, \$2 of for each deer registration fee collected registered under section 12301-A, subsection 3, paragraph C chapter 919 must be deposited in transferred into the fund from the Resource Management Fund identified in section 10206, subsection 10 and may be used to assist landowners with the prevention or management of landowner-deer conflicts. In addition, the revenue from each antlerless deer permit fee collected under section 11152, subsection 9, minus administrative costs, must be deposited in the fund and be used for predator control purposes or to acquire or manage

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1 deer habitat. The commissioner may accept and deposit into the fund monetary gifts,  
2 donations or other contributions from public or private sources for the purposes specified  
3 in this section. The fund must be held separate and apart from all other money, funds and  
4 accounts. The department shall report annually to the joint standing committee of the  
5 Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters on the fund and  
6 its utilization.

7 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§12** is enacted to read:

8 **12. Mandatory hunting license suspension for failure to register deer.** The  
9 commissioner shall suspend a person’s hunting license for one year if that person fails to  
10 register a deer pursuant to chapter 919.

11 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§3, ¶B,** as repealed and replaced by PL 2015, c.  
12 494, Pt. D, §2, is amended to read:

13 B. A resident hunting license, for a person 16 years of age or older, is \$26 \$28 and  
14 permits hunting of all legal species, subject to the permit requirements in subchapter 3.

15 **Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§3, ¶D,** as amended by PL 2025, c. 388, Pt. NNN,  
16 §1, is further amended to read:

17 D. A resident combination hunting and fishing license is \$48 \$50 and permits hunting  
18 of all legal species, subject to the permit requirements in subchapter 3.

19 **Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§3, ¶E,** as amended by PL 2025, c. 388, Pt. NNN,  
20 §2, is further amended to read:

21 E. A resident combination archery hunting and fishing license is \$48 \$50 and permits  
22 hunting of all legal species, subject to the permit requirements in subchapter 3.

23 **Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§3, ¶E-1,** as repealed and replaced by PL 2015, c.  
24 494, Pt. D, §2, is amended to read:

25 E-1. A resident apprenticeship hunter license, which includes a bear hunting permit  
26 and a wild turkey hunting permit under sections 11151 and 11155, respectively, is \$26  
27 \$28 and permits hunting of all legal species, subject to the permit requirements in  
28 subchapter 3.

29 **Sec. 8. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§3, ¶I,** as repealed and replaced by PL 2015, c.  
30 494, Pt. D, §2, is amended to read:

31 I. A nonresident hunting license, which permits hunting of all legal species subject to  
32 the permit requirements in subchapter 3, is \$115 \$119.

33 **Sec. 9. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§3, ¶J,** as amended by PL 2025, c. 388, Pt. NNN,  
34 §3, is further amended to read:

35 J. A nonresident combination hunting and fishing license is \$169 \$173.

36 **Sec. 10. 12 MRSA §11109, sub-§3, ¶P,** as repealed and replaced by PL 2015, c.  
37 494, Pt. D, §2, is amended to read:

38 P. A nonresident apprenticeship hunter license, which permits the hunting of all legal  
39 species and includes a bear hunting permit and a wild turkey hunting permit under  
40 sections 11151 and 11155, respectively, is \$115 \$119.



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3. It directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by January 1, 2029 regarding its findings and recommendations related to the electronic registration of deer. The committee is authorized to report out a bill based on the report.

4. It renames the Pheasant Fund as the Resource Management Fund and expands the funding sources and purposes of the fund. It requires \$2 to be transferred from the Resource Management Fund to the Maine Deer Management Fund for each registered deer.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

**(See attached)**