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H.113

Introduced by Representatives Canfield of Fair Haven, Helm of Fair Haven,
and Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Conservation and development; fishing and hunting licenses; moose
permits

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish a
program to set aside five moose permits for Vermonters who have served in
any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.

An act relating to moose permits for veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4254 is amended to read:

§ 4254. FISHING AND HUNTING LICENSES; ELIGIBILITY, DESIGN,
DISTRIBUTION, SALE, AND ISSUE

* * *

(i)(1) If the Board establishes a moose hunting season, up to five moose
permits shall be set aside to be auctioned. The moose permits set aside for
auction shall be in addition to the number of annual moose permits authorized
by the Board. The Board shall adopt rules necessary for the Department to

1 establish, implement, and run the auction process. The Commissioner annually
2 may establish a minimum dollar amount of not less than \$1,500.00 for any
3 winning bid for a moose permit auctioned under this subdivision. Proceeds
4 from the auction shall be deposited in the Fish and Wildlife Fund and used for
5 conservation education programs run by the Department. Successful bidders
6 must have a Vermont hunting or combination license in order to purchase a
7 moose permit.

8 (2) If the Board establishes a moose hunting season, there shall be
9 established a program to set aside five moose permits for Vermont residents
10 who have served on active duty in any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces ~~of the~~
11 ~~United States and who have been awarded or are eligible to receive a campaign~~
12 ~~ribbon for Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom.~~ The
13 Department of Fish and Wildlife shall adopt a procedure to implement the
14 set-aside program for veterans ~~who have been awarded or are eligible to~~
15 ~~receive a campaign ribbon for Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring~~
16 ~~Freedom~~, including a method to award applicants preference points and a
17 method by which veterans who applied for but failed to receive a permit in one
18 hunting season are awarded priority in the subsequent moose hunting season.
19 The procedure adopted under this subdivision shall be consistent with the
20 preference system for the permit auction authorized under subdivision (1) of
21 this subsection. Veterans awarded a moose permit under this subsection must

1 possess a valid Vermont hunting or combination license in order to purchase a
2 moose permit. The Department of Fish and Wildlife shall coordinate with the
3 ~~Department of Veterans Affairs~~ Office of Veterans Affairs to provide notice to
4 eligible veterans of the moose permits set-aside under this subsection.

5 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.