

1 H.182

2 Introduced by Representative Winters of Williamstown

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Fish and wildlife; moose permits; hunter educator lottery

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to direct the fish and wildlife board
7 to establish a lottery that will award two moose permits to instructors of hunter
8 education courses.

9 An act relating to moose permits for instructors of hunter education courses

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

11 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4254(i) is amended to read:

12 (i)(1) If the board establishes a moose hunting season, up to five moose
13 permits shall be set aside to be auctioned. The board shall adopt rules
14 necessary for the department to establish, implement, and run the auction
15 process. Proceeds from the auction shall be deposited in the fish and wildlife
16 fund and used for conservation education programs run by the department.
17 Successful bidders must have a Vermont hunting or combination license in
18 order to purchase a moose permit. ~~Beginning with the 2006 hunting season,~~
19 ~~the~~ The five moose permits set aside for auction shall be in addition to the
20 number of annual moose permits authorized by the board.

1 (2) If the board establishes a moose hunting season, there shall be
2 established ~~a program~~ programs to set aside additional permits in the following
3 manner:

4 (A) ~~five~~ Five moose permits for Vermont residents who have served
5 on active duty in any branch of the armed forces of the United States and who
6 have been awarded or are eligible to receive a campaign ribbon for Operation
7 Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom. The department of fish and
8 wildlife shall adopt a procedure to implement the set-aside program for
9 veterans who have been awarded or are eligible to receive a campaign ribbon
10 for Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom, including a
11 method to award applicants preference points and a method by which veterans
12 who applied for but failed to receive a permit in one hunting season are
13 awarded priority in the subsequent moose hunting season. The procedure
14 adopted under this subdivision shall be consistent with the preference system
15 for the permit auction authorized under subdivision (i)(1) of this section.
16 Veterans awarded a moose permit under this subsection must possess a valid
17 Vermont hunting or combination license in order to purchase a moose permit.
18 The department of fish and wildlife shall coordinate with the department of
19 veterans affairs to provide notice to eligible veterans of the moose permits set-
20 aside under this subsection.

1 (B) Two moose permits for Vermont residents who have worked as
2 hunter education instructors during the 18 months prior to the season for which
3 the permits are awarded. The board shall adopt rules or procedures to award
4 the two hunter education instructor moose permits through a free lottery.
5 Hunter education instructors entered into the lottery must possess a valid
6 Vermont hunting or combination license in order to be eligible for a moose
7 permit awarded under this subsection.