

1 H.655

2 Introduced by Representatives Canfield of Fair Haven, Branagan of Georgia,  
3 Browning of Arlington, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Grad of  
4 Moretown and Hebert of Vernon

5 Referred to Committee on

6 Date:

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

9 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to establish a program to set aside  
10 five moose permits for Vermonters who have served in any branch of the  
11 armed forces of the United States.

12 An act relating to moose permits for veterans

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

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

15 § 4254. FISHING AND HUNTING LICENSES; ELIGIBILITY, DESIGN,  
16 DISTRIBUTION, SALE, AND ISSUE

17 \* \* \*

18 (i)(1) If the board establishes a moose hunting season, up to five moose  
19 permits shall be set aside to be auctioned. The board shall adopt rules  
20 necessary for the department to establish, implement, and run the auction

1 process. Proceeds from the auction shall be deposited in the fish and wildlife  
2 fund and used for conservation education programs run by the department.  
3 Successful bidders must have a Vermont hunting or combination license in  
4 order to purchase a moose permit. Beginning with the 2006 hunting season,  
5 the five moose permits set aside for auction shall be in addition to the number  
6 of annual moose permits authorized by the board.

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

1 order to purchase a moose permit. The department of fish and wildlife shall  
2 coordinate with the department of veterans affairs to provide notice to eligible  
3 veterans of the moose permits set-aside under this subsection.