

## **125th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 450

H.P. 343

House of Representatives, February 10, 2011

## An Act To Auction Off Moose Permits to Maine Guides

Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

Heath & Print

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Clerk

Presented by Representative WOOD of Sabattus. Cosponsored by Representatives: CROCKETT of Bethel, HARVELL of Farmington, MacDONALD of Boothbay, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, Senator: THIBODEAU of Waldo.

- 1 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
- 2 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§14 is enacted to read:

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3 14. Maine guide moose hunting permit lottery. Notwithstanding subsection 2, the commissioner shall establish a lottery to issue 300 moose hunting permits each year to 4 resident guides licensed under chapter 927. Moose hunting permits available under this 5 subsection must be divided among all moose hunting zones proportionally to the 6 distribution and number of moose hunting permits issued under subsection 2. A licensed 7 Maine guide may not receive more than 2 moose hunting permits under this subsection 8 per year. The 300 moose hunting permits issued under this subsection are in addition to 9 the number of moose hunting permits allotted each year under subsection 2. 10

- 11A. The cost for a moose hunting permit issued under this subsection is \$1,000,12except that the cost of a moose hunting permit for an antlerless moose issued under13this subsection is \$500.
- 14B. A licensed Maine guide that receives a moose hunting permit under this15subsection may sell that permit at a sportsman show recognized as such by the16commissioner.
- 17C. Revenues raised by the department under this subsection must be used to support18biologists conducting moose-related research in the State.

## SUMMARY

20 This bill directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue 300 21 moose hunting permits each year to licensed Maine guides. The 300 moose hunting 22 permits for licensed Maine guides are in addition to those moose hunting permits allotted 23 under the regular lottery system. The bill limits the number of moose hunting permits a 24 licensed Maine guide can receive in one year to 2 and allows that licensed Maine guide to 25 sell those moose hunting permits at sportsman shows. The bill establishes a fee structure 26 and provides that money raised from those fees must be used to support biologists 27 conducting moose-related research in the State.