

131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 608

H.P. 385

House of Representatives, February 14, 2023

Resolve, to Improve Outcomes for Participants in the Antlerless Deer Permit Lottery

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

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

R(+ B. Hunt

Presented by Representative LANDRY of Farmington.

Cosponsored by Representative WOOD of Greene, Senator BLACK of Franklin and Representatives: BLIER of Buxton, CAMPBELL of Orrington, HEPLER of Woolwich, O'CONNELL of Brewer, PLUECKER of Warren, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, THERIAULT of Fort Kent, THORNE of Carmel.

Sec. 1. Antlerless deer permit lottery. Resolved: That, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 11152, subsection 3, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall amend its rule Chapter 16: Hunting to change the antlerless deer permit lottery to provide that as applicants' names are drawn, applicants are assigned to their highest choice of available wildlife management districts until all permits are awarded and that if the name of an applicant is drawn and all of the applicant's preferred wildlife management districts' permits have been assigned, that applicant will be assigned to a district as geographically close as possible to the applicant's first choice, unless the applicant has indicated the applicant is not interested in any other areas. The department shall model the changes to the antlerless deer permit lottery required under this section on the relevant procedures of the department's moose public chance drawing.

12 SUMMARY

This resolve requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to change the department's antlerless deer permit lottery to allow an applicant whose name is drawn to be assigned to another wildlife management district if the applicant's first choices of district have already been assigned. It directs the department to model the changes on the relevant procedures of the department's moose public chance drawing.