

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to game and fish; expanding game and fish lottery and drawing
1.3 preferences for service members; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, section
1.4 97A.465, subdivision 5.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 97A.465, subdivision 5, is amended to
1.7 read:

1.8 Subd. 5. **Preference to service members.** (a) For purposes of this subdivision:

1.9 (1) "qualified service member or veteran" means a Minnesota resident who:

1.10 (i) is currently serving, or has served at any time during the past 24 months, in active
1.11 service as a member of the United States armed forces, including the National Guard or
1.12 other military reserves;

1.13 (ii) has received a Purple Heart medal for qualifying military service, as shown by
1.14 official military records; or

1.15 (iii) has a service-connected disability rated at 70 percent or more as defined by the
1.16 United States Veterans Administration; and

1.17 (2) "active service" means service defined under section 190.05, subdivision 5b or 5c.

1.18 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, chapter 97B or 97C, or
1.19 administrative rules, the commissioner ~~may~~ shall give first preference to qualified service
1.20 members or veterans in any drawing or lottery involving the selection of applicants for
1.21 hunting or fishing licenses, permits, and special permits. This subdivision does not
1.22 apply to licenses or permits for taking moose, elk, or prairie chickens. Actions of the
1.23 commissioner under this subdivision are not rules under the Administrative Procedure Act
1.24 and section 14.386 does not apply.