

1 H.465

2 Introduced by Representative Consejo of Sheldon

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Fishing and hunting licenses; eligibility, design, distribution, sale,
6 and issue; persons 65 years of age or older

7 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require the fish and wildlife board
8 to establish a separate moose permit lottery for applicants 65 years of age or
9 older.

10 An act relating to establishment of a separate moose hunting lottery for
11 persons 65 years of age or older

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

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

14 § 4254. FISHING AND HUNTING LICENSES; ELIGIBILITY, DESIGN,
15 DISTRIBUTION, SALE, AND ISSUE

16 * * *

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

1 fund and used for conservation education programs run by the department.

2 Successful bidders must have a Vermont hunting or combination license in
3 order to purchase a moose permit. Beginning with the 2006 hunting season,
4 the five moose permits set aside for auction shall be in addition to the number
5 of annual moose permits authorized by the board.

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

1 department of veterans affairs to provide notice to eligible veterans of the
2 moose permits set-aside under this subsection.

3 (3) If the board establishes a moose hunting season, there shall be
4 established a program to set aside five moose permits for Vermont residents
5 who are 65 years of age or older and who have never held a moose permit.
6 The department of fish and wildlife shall adopt a procedure to implement the
7 set-aside program for persons 65 years of age or older and who have never
8 held a moose permit, including a method to award applicants preference points
9 and a method by which persons 65 years of age or older who applied for but
10 failed to receive a permit in one hunting season are awarded priority in the
11 subsequent moose hunting season. The procedure adopted under this
12 subdivision shall be consistent with the preference system for the permit
13 auction authorized under subdivision (i)(1) of this section. Persons 65 years of
14 age or older applying for a moose permit under this subsection are precluded
15 from applying for a moose permit by other means in the same year. Persons 65
16 years of age or older awarded a moose permit under this subsection must
17 possess a valid Vermont hunting or combination license in order to purchase a
18 moose permit.