

1 S.56

2 Introduced by Senators Ayer and Bray

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Fish and wildlife; hunting; posting; notice

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to clarify  
7 provisions related to the posting of land and access to land and water for  
8 hunting, fishing, and trapping.

9 An act relating to the posting of land and access to land and water for  
10 hunting, fishing, and trapping

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

12 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4081 is amended to read:

13 § 4081. POLICY

14 \* \* \*

15 (g) If the ~~board~~ Board finds that an antlerless season is necessary to  
16 maintain the health and size of the herd, the ~~department~~ Department shall  
17 administer an antlerless deer program. Any open season on antlerless deer  
18 shall be held following the regular deer season held pursuant to section 4741 of  
19 this title, except as provided in section 4086 of this title. Annually, the ~~board~~  
20 Board shall determine how many antlerless permits to issue in each deer

1 management district. For a nonrefundable fee of \$10.00 for residents and  
2 \$25.00 for nonresidents a person may apply for a permit. Each person may  
3 submit only one application for a permit. The ~~department~~ Department shall  
4 allocate the permits in the following manner:

5 (1) A Vermont landowner, as defined in section 4253 of this title, who  
6 owns 25 or more contiguous acres and who applies shall receive a permit for  
7 antlerless hunting in the management unit on which the land is located before  
8 any are given to people eligible under subdivision (2) of this subsection. If the  
9 land is owned by more than one individual, corporation, or other entity, only  
10 one permit shall be issued. Landowners applying for antlerless permits under  
11 this subdivision shall not, at the time of application or thereafter during the  
12 regular hunting season, post their lands except under the provisions of section  
13 4710 of this title. As used in this section, "post" means any signage that would  
14 lead a reasonable person to believe that hunting is restricted on the land. If the  
15 number of landowners who apply exceeds the number of permits for that  
16 district, the department shall award all permits in that district to landowners by  
17 lottery.

18 \* \* \*

1 Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. 4251 is amended to read:

2 § 4251. TAKING WILD ANIMALS AND FISH; LICENSE

3 \* \* \*

4 (b) The ~~commissioner of fish and wildlife~~ Commissioner of Fish and  
5 Wildlife may designate ~~one day~~ two days each calendar year as a “free fishing  
6 ~~day”~~ days” for which no license shall be required. One day shall occur in the  
7 open water fishing season and one day shall occur during the ice fishing  
8 season.

9 Sec. 3. 10 V.S.A. § 4280 is amended to read:

10 § 4280. TAKING WILDLIFE DURING A PERIOD OF LICENSE

11 SUSPENSION

12 A person shall not hunt, fish, or trap while a license or right to obtain a  
13 license is under suspension, including those persons who could otherwise hunt,  
14 fish, or trap pursuant to section 4253 of this title.

15 Sec. 4. 10 V.S.A. § 5201 is amended to read:

16 § 5201. NOTICES; POSTING

17 (a)(1) An owner, or a person having the exclusive right to take fish or wild  
18 animals upon land or the waters thereon, who desires to protect his or her land  
19 or waters over which he or she has exclusive control, may maintain notices  
20 stating, if he or she wishes to prohibit the;

