

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Alien Big Game and Turkey Hunters and Nonresident Hunters'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11226, as reallocated by PL 2007, c. 695, Pt. A, §16, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11226-A is enacted to read:

§ 11226-A. Canadian big game hunter; guide required

1. Definitions. For purposes of this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Big game" means bear, deer and moose.

2. Prohibition. An alien resident of the Canadian province of New Brunswick or Quebec may not hunt big game or wild turkey without being accompanied by a person who holds a valid guide license pursuant to chapter 927 authorizing that person to act as a hunting guide.

3. Penalty. The following penalties apply to violations of this section.

A. A person who violates subsection 2 commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged.

B. A person who violates subsection 2 after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §11302, sub-§2, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

A. The total number of clients with a resident Maine guide may not be more than 35 in order to satisfy the requirements of this subsection.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill. It repeals the current prohibition on aliens hunting big game in the State without a guide and provides that an alien residing in New Brunswick or Quebec may not hunt big game or wild turkey in Maine without being accompanied by a licensed guide.

Current law provides that a nonresident may not hunt bear with the use of dogs unless that person employs and hunts with a resident Maine guide and it limits the number of nonresident clients a guide can hunt with under that provision to 3 hunters. This amendment increases that number to 5.