

SENATE BILL NO. 34

INTRODUCED BY S. KITZENBERG

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF BIG GAME PERMITS THAT MAY BE ISSUED TO NONRESIDENT HUNTERS IN HUNTING DISTRICTS OR AREAS WHERE UNLIMITED HUNTING PERMITS ARE ISSUED; AMENDING SECTION 87-2-506, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 87-2-506, MCA, is amended to read:

"87-2-506. Restrictions on hunting licenses. (1) The department may prescribe by rule the number of hunting licenses to be issued. Any license sold may be restricted to a specific administrative region, hunting district, or other designated area and may specify the species, age, and sex to be taken and the time period for which the license is valid.

(2) (a) When the number of valid resident applications for big game licenses or permits of a single class or type exceeds the number of licenses or permits the department desires to issue in an administrative region, hunting district, or other designated area, then the number of big game licenses or permits issued to nonresident license or permit holders in the region, district, or area may not exceed 10% of the total issued.

(b) In hunting districts or other designated areas where big game permits are issued on an unlimited basis, the department may limit the number of big game permits issued to nonresident permit applicants in that hunting district or area to not more than 10% of the total number of resident permit applications received or resident permits issued in that hunting district or area during the previous license year.

(3) Disabled veterans who meet the qualifying criteria provided in 87-2-803(5) must be provided a total of 50 Class A-3 deer A tags, 50 Class A-4 deer B tags, 50 Class B-7 deer A tags, 50 Class B-8 deer B tags, and 50 special antelope licenses annually, which may be used within the administrative region, hunting district, or other designated area of the disabled veteran's choice, except in a region, district, or area where the number of licenses are less than the number of applicants, in which case qualifying disabled veterans are eligible for no more than 10% of the total licenses for that region, district, or area."

