

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

S.F. No. 689

(SENATE AUTHORS: WESENBERG, Green, Drazkowski and Hoffman)		
DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
01/27/2025	190	Introduction and first reading
		Referred to Environment, Climate, and Legacy
03/24/2025	1023	Author stricken Eichorn

1.1

A bill for an act

1.2

relating to game and fish; allowing accumulation of bear hunter preference points

1.3

for youth; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.405.

1.4

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

1.5

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.405, is amended to read:

1.6

97B.405 COMMISSIONER MAY LIMIT NUMBER OF BEAR HUNTERS.

1.7

(a) The commissioner may limit the number of persons that may hunt bear in an area,

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if it is necessary to prevent an overharvest or improve the distribution of hunters. The

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commissioner may establish, by rule, a method, including a drawing, to impartially select

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the hunters for an area. The commissioner shall give preference to hunters that have

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previously applied and have not been selected. Additionally, the commissioner may award

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points toward a preference under this section to a person who is too young to be a bear

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hunter, so that by the time the person is old enough to be a bear hunter the person has

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accumulated a number of preference points.

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(b) If the commissioner limits the number of persons that may hunt bear in an area under

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paragraph (a), the commissioner must reserve one permit and give first preference for that

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permit to a resident of a Minnesota veterans home.

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(c) A person selected through a drawing must purchase a license by August 1. Any

1.19

remaining available licenses not purchased shall be issued to any eligible person as prescribed

1.20

by the commissioner on a first-come, first-served basis beginning three business days after

1.21

August 1.