

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
EIGHTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

S.F. No. 1962

(SENATE AUTHORS: INGEBRIGTSEN, Carlson, Pederson, Stumpf and Saxhaug)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/20/2012	3855	Introduction and first reading Referred to Environment and Natural Resources
03/08/2012	4268	Comm report: To pass
	4268	Second reading See SF1830, Art. 2, Sec. 26

A bill for an act
relating to game and fish; allowing scopes on muzzleloaders; amending
Minnesota Statutes 2011 Supplement, section 97B.031, subdivision 5.
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2011 Supplement, section 97B.031, subdivision 5, is
amended to read:

Subd. 5. ~~Scopes; visually impaired hunters on muzzleloaders.~~ (a)
~~Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the commissioner may issue a special~~
~~permit, without a fee, to~~ A person may use a muzzleloader with a scope to take deer
during the muzzleloader season ~~to a person who obtains the required licenses and who has~~
~~a visual impairment. The scope may not have magnification capabilities.~~
~~(b) The visual impairment must be to the extent that the applicant is unable~~
~~to identify targets and the rifle sights at the same time without a scope. The visual~~
~~impairment and specific conditions must be established by medical evidence verified in~~
~~writing by (1) a licensed physician or a certified nurse practitioner or certified physician~~
~~assistant acting under the direction of a licensed physician; (2) a licensed ophthalmologist;~~
~~or (3) a licensed optometrist. The commissioner may request additional information from~~
~~the physician if needed to verify the applicant's eligibility for the permit.~~
~~(c) A permit issued under this subdivision may be valid for up to five years, based~~
~~on the permanence of the visual impairment as determined by the licensed physician,~~
~~ophthalmologist, or optometrist.~~
~~(d) The permit must be in the immediate possession of the permittee when hunting~~
~~under the special permit.~~

2.1 ~~(e) The commissioner may deny, modify, suspend, or revoke a permit issued under~~
2.2 ~~this subdivision for cause, including a violation of the game and fish laws or rules.~~

2.3 ~~(f) A person who knowingly makes a false application or assists another in making~~
2.4 ~~a false application for a permit under this subdivision is guilty of a misdemeanor. A~~
2.5 ~~physician, certified nurse practitioner, certified physician assistant, ophthalmologist, or~~
2.6 ~~optometrist who fraudulently certifies to the commissioner that a person is visually~~
2.7 ~~impaired as described in this subdivision is guilty of a misdemeanor.~~