

A bill for an act

relating to game and fish; modifying turkey hunt landowner-tenant drawing application provisions; providing criminal penalties; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 97A.435, subdivision 4.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 97A.435, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Separate selection of eligible licensees.** (a) The commissioner may conduct a separate selection for up to 20 percent of the turkey licenses to be issued for any area. Only persons who are owners or tenants of and who live on at least 40 acres of land in the area, and their family members, are eligible applicants for turkey licenses for the separate selection. The qualifying land may be noncontiguous. Persons who are unsuccessful in a separate selection must be included in the selection for the remaining licenses. Persons who obtain a license in a separate selection must allow public turkey hunting on their land during that turkey season. A license issued under this subdivision is restricted to the permit area where the qualifying land is located.

(b) The commissioner may by rule establish criteria for determining eligible family members under this subdivision.

(c) The commissioner shall presume that an applicant under this subdivision is eligible in order to ensure the timely processing of applications. An applicant that knowingly makes a false statement or a license agent that knowingly issues a license to an ineligible person is subject to the penalty provisions under section 97A.311.