

(SENATE AUTHORS: ROBLING, Saxhaug and Ingebrigtsen)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/09/2011	197	Introduction and first reading Referred to Environment and Natural Resources

1.1

A bill for an act

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relating to game and fish; eliminating magnification restriction for scopes on

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muzzleloaders used by visually impaired hunters; amending Minnesota Statutes

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2010, section 97B.031, subdivision 5.

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

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Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 97B.031, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

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Subd. 5. **Scopes; visually impaired hunters.** (a) Notwithstanding any other law

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to the contrary, the commissioner may issue a special permit, without a fee, to use a

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muzzleloader with a scope to take deer during the muzzleloader season to a person who

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obtains the required licenses and who has a visual impairment. ~~The scope may not have~~

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~~magnification capabilities.~~

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(b) The visual impairment must be to the extent that the applicant is unable

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to identify targets and the rifle sights at the same time without a scope. The visual

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impairment and specific conditions must be established by medical evidence verified in

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writing by a licensed physician, ophthalmologist, or optometrist. The commissioner

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may request additional information from the physician if needed to verify the applicant's

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eligibility for the permit.

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(c) A permit issued under this subdivision may be valid for up to five years, based

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on the permanence of the visual impairment as determined by the licensed physician,

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ophthalmologist, or optometrist.

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(d) The permit must be in the immediate possession of the permittee when hunting

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under the special permit.

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(e) The commissioner may deny, modify, suspend, or revoke a permit issued under

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this subdivision for cause, including a violation of the game and fish laws or rules.

**S.F. No. 271, as introduced - 87th Legislative Session (2011-2012) [11-0846]**

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