

SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-THIRD SESSION

S.F. No. 3837

(SENATE AUTHORS: FARNSWORTH)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/19/2024	11632	Introduction and first reading Referred to Environment, Climate, and Legacy

1.1A bill for an act

1.2relating to game and fish; allowing additional firearms to be used during the

1.3muzzleloader deer season; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 97A.015,

1.4subdivision 32a; 97B.311.

1.5BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.015, subdivision 32a, is amended to read:

1.7Subd. 32a. **Muzzleloader season.** "Muzzleloader season" means the deer season open

1.8only for legal muzzle-loading firearms and single-shot firearms made using a flintlock or

1.9percussion-cap ignition system designed before 1865, as prescribed by the commissioner.

1.10Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.311, is amended to read:

1.11**97B.311 DEER SEASONS AND RESTRICTIONS.**

1.12(a) The commissioner may, by rule, prescribe restrictions and designate areas where

1.13deer may be taken, including hunter selection criteria for special hunts established under

1.14section 97A.401, subdivision 4. The commissioner may, by rule, prescribe the open seasons

1.15for deer within the following periods:

1.16(1) taking with firearms, other than muzzle-loading firearms, between November 1 and

1.17December 15;

1.18(2) taking with muzzle-loading firearms or single-shot firearms made using a flintlock

1.19or percussion-cap ignition system designed before 1865 between September 1 and December

1.2031; and

1.21(3) taking by archery between September 1 and December 31.

- 2.1 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the commissioner may establish special seasons
- 2.2 within designated areas at any time of year.