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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 394

01/17/2023 Authored by Stephenson, Becker-Finn, Nash, Heintzeman, Lee, F., and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to game and fish; modifying muzzleloader provisions; amending Minnesota
1.3 Statutes 2022, sections 97A.015, subdivision 51; 97B.031, subdivision 1.

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

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.015, subdivision 51, is amended to read:

1.6 Subd. 51. Unloaded. "Unloaded" means, with reference to a firearm, without ammunition
1.7 in the barrels and magazine, if the magazine is in the firearm. A muzzle-loading firearm
1.8 with is unloaded if:

1.9 (1) for a flintlock ignition is unloaded if, it does not have priming powder in a pan. A
1.10 muzzle-loading firearm with;

1.11 (2) for a percussion ignition is unloaded if, it does not have a percussion cap on a nipple;

1.12 (3) for an electronic ignition system, the battery is removed and is disconnected from
1.13 the firearm; and

1.14 (4) for an encapsulated powder charge ignition system, the primer and powder charge
1.15 are removed from the firearm.

1.16 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.031, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.17 Subdivision 1. Permissible firearms and ammunition; big game and wolves. A person
1.18 may take big game and wolves with a firearm only if:

1.19 (1) the any rifle, shotgun, and or handgun used is a caliber of at least .22 inches and with
1.20 has centerfire ignition;

- 2.1 (2) the firearm is loaded only with single projectile ammunition;
- 2.2 (3) a projectile used is a caliber of at least .22 inches and has a soft point or is an
- 2.3 expanding bullet type;
- 2.4 (4) ~~the~~ any muzzleloader used ~~is incapable of being~~ has the projectile loaded only at the
- 2.5 ~~breech~~ muzzle;
- 2.6 (5) ~~the~~ any smooth-bore muzzleloader used is a caliber of at least .45 inches; and
- 2.7 (6) ~~the~~ any rifled muzzleloader used is a caliber of at least .40 inches.