MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 622

H. P. 498 House of Representatives, February 16, 1979 On Motion of Mr. Dow of W. Gardiner, referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Dow of W. Gardiner.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT Regulating Hunting with Muzzle-loading Rifles.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

12 MRSA § 2458-B is enacted to read:

§ 2458-B. Hunting with muzzle-loading rifles

Muzzle-loading firearms of less than .44 caliber are not permitted for the purpose of hunting large game.

For the purpose of transporting a muzzle-loading firearm, or any other time when an unloaded muzzle-loading firearm is called for, the absence of a percussion cap from the nipple, or priming charge from a flintlock, shall be deemed to render the arm sufficiently safe and unfireable to comply with this Title, even though the barrel contains powder and ball.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill accomplishes the regulating of hunting with muzzle-loading firearms in 2 ways.

- 1. It prohibits use of any muzzle-loading firearm of less than .44 caliber for hunting large game.
- 2. It states that a muzzle-loading firearm shall be deemed to be unloaded when the percussion cap is absent from the nipple, or when the priming charge is absent from the flintlock.