

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 1460

H.P. 1022

House of Representatives, March 23, 2005

An Act To Ban Bear Hunting with Traps except To Protect the Public

Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative PELLETIER-SIMPSON of Auburn.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CHURCHILL of Washburn, EDER of Portland, HUTTON of Bowdoinham, Senator STRIMLING of Cumberland.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11251, sub-§1, ¶D, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

D. The commissioner may terminate the open season on bear as established in paragraphs A and B at any time in any part of the State if, in the commissioner's opinion, an immediate emergency action is necessary due to adverse weather conditions or severe hunting ~~or-trapping~~ pressure.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11303, sub-§2, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §160 and affected by §422, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §11351, sub-§1, as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and amended by c. 655, Pt. B, §162 and affected by §422, is further amended to read:

1. Hunting bear after having killed one. A person may not hunt ~~or-trap~~ bear after that person has killed or registered one during any open season.

Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §12260, as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and amended by c. 655, Pt. B, §§222 to 224 and affected by §422, is repealed.

Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §12260-A is enacted to read:

§12260-A. Trapping bear prohibited

A person may not trap bear except with the written permission of the commissioner. The commissioner may give permission to trap bear pursuant to this section only to protect the public. A person who violates this section commits a Class E crime.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits the trapping of bear except with the written permission of the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to protect the public.