

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 1208

H.P. 899

House of Representatives, March 22, 2011

An Act To Allow Early Deer Hunting for Senior Hunters

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative CRAFTS of Lisbon.
Cosponsored by Senator MASON of Androscoggin and
Representatives: BLACK of Wilton, DAVIS of Sangerville, TIMBERLAKE of Turner.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11108-C** is enacted to read:

3 **§11108-C. Early hunting for junior and senior hunters**

4 A holder of a valid junior hunting license who is under 16 years of age and a holder
5 of an antlerless deer permit under section 11152 who is 70 years of age or older are
6 allowed to hunt deer on the day immediately preceding the commencement of the open
7 season on deer established pursuant to section 11401.

8 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11402, sub-§4, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2
9 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

10 A. Open any of the areas closed to deer hunting under subsection 3, as long as the
11 legislative body of each affected town approves the opening. For purposes of this
12 subsection, "affected town" means a town, township or municipality that contains
13 within its borders any area proposed to be opened under this paragraph; and

14 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §11402, sub-§4, ¶B**, as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and
15 amended by c. 655, Pt. B, §169 and affected by §422, is further amended to read:

16 B. Create special hunting seasons for the taking of deer in any part of the State to
17 maintain deer populations in balance with available habitat, subject to the provisions
18 of this paragraph.

19 (1) The demarcation of each area must follow recognizable physical boundaries,
20 such as rivers, roads and railroad rights-of-way.

21 (3) The commissioner may establish limits on the number of deer taken or
22 possessed by persons during a special season. Limits established by the
23 commissioner under this subparagraph are exceptions to the limits imposed under
24 section 11501.

25 (4) The commissioner may specify types of weapons to be used during a special
26 season; ~~and~~

27 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §11402, sub-§4, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2
28 and affected by c. 614, §9, is repealed.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill provides that the day before the deer hunting season starts is open to a
31 holder of a valid junior hunting license who is under 16 years of age and a holder of an
32 antlerless deer permit who is 70 years of age or older.