

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 799

H.P. 548

House of Representatives, March 10, 2015

An Act To Stimulate the Economy and Invigorate the Hunting Industry by Establishing a Pilot Project To Allow Hunting on Sundays in Limited Areas

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative CHACE of Durham.

Cosponsored by Representatives: DUCHESNE of Hudson, McCABE of Skowhegan, PIERCE of Dresden, POULIOT of Augusta, STETKIS of Canaan, Senator: HAMPER of Oxford.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11205, sub-§1**, as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and
3 amended by c. 655, Pt. B, §137 and affected by §422, is further amended to read:

4 **1. Prohibition.** A person may not:

5 A. Hunt wild animals or wild birds on Sunday; ~~or~~, except that, as a pilot project until
6 January 1, 2018, hunting on Sundays is authorized for any species during the open
7 season on that species in the following wildlife management districts:

8 (1) Wildlife management districts 1 to 14;

9 (2) Wildlife management district 17;

10 (3) Wildlife management district 19; and

11 (4) Wildlife management district 28; or

12 B. Possess any wild animal or wild bird taken in violation of paragraph A except as
13 otherwise provided in this Part.

14 **Sec. 2. Rules; report.** Rules adopted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and
15 Wildlife to implement the pilot project authorized by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title
16 12, section 11205, subsection 1, paragraph A are routine technical rules as defined by
17 Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. No later than January 1, 2017, the Department of
18 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the
19 Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters regarding the
20 status of the pilot project and recommendations as to whether the project should be
21 expanded, modified, reduced or terminated. After reviewing the report, the joint standing
22 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters
23 may report out a bill to the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature concerning the
24 subject matter of this section.

25 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill allows as a pilot project until January 1, 2018 hunting on Sundays in wildlife
27 management districts 1 to 14, 17, 19 and 28 for any species during the open season on
28 that species. This bill requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit
29 by January 1, 2017 a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
30 jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters regarding the status of the pilot
31 project and recommendations as to whether the project should be expanded, modified,
32 reduced or terminated.