

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

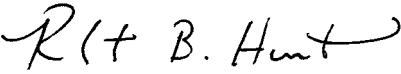
No. 439

H.P. 293

House of Representatives, February 4, 2025

**An Act to Preserve Maine's Sporting Heritage and Enhance
Sporting Opportunities for Maine's Youth by Allowing Maine's
Youth to Hunt on Sunday**

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


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative ARDELL of Monticello.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10501, sub-§9**, as amended by PL 2023, c. 239, §8, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **9. Possession of hunting equipment on Sunday.** Possession of hunting equipment
5 in the fields or forests or on the waters or ice in the State on Sunday is prima facie evidence
6 of a violation of section 11205, unless:

7 A. The hunting equipment is carried, securely wrapped, in a complete cover;

8 B. The hunting equipment is fastened in a case; or

9 C. The hunting equipment is carried in at least 2 separate pieces in such a manner that
10 it cannot be fired, unless the separate pieces are joined together. For the purpose of
11 this subsection, a clip, magazine or cylinder of a firearm may not be considered a piece
12 of the hunting equipment. Archery equipment must be kept in a case or cover if
13 broadheads or field points are kept attached to the arrows or bolts;

14 D. The hunting equipment is carried by a person hunting pursuant to section 11205,
15 subsection 1-A; or

16 E. The hunting equipment is carried by a person supervising a person hunting in
17 accordance with the requirements of section 11108-C and the supervised person is
18 hunting pursuant to section 11205, subsection 1-A.

19 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11205, sub-§1, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2
20 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

21 A. Hunt wild animals or wild birds on Sunday, except as provided in subsection 1-A;
22 or

23 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §11205, sub-§1-A** is enacted to read:

24 **1-A. Hunting allowed on Sunday.** A person who holds a valid junior hunting license
25 or a person 18 years of age who is enrolled in secondary school and holds a valid hunting
26 license may hunt wild animals or wild birds on Sunday subject to all other requirements,
27 laws and rules governing hunting.

28 **SUMMARY**

29 This bill allows persons who hold a valid junior hunting license and persons under 18
30 years of age who hold a valid hunting license and are enrolled in secondary school to hunt
31 wild animals and wild birds on Sundays.