

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1293

S.P. 523

In Senate, March 25, 2025

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### An Act to Prohibit Coyote-killing Contests in Maine

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

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.  
Cosponsored by Representative DODGE of Belfast and  
Senators: BRENNER of Cumberland, LAWRENCE of York, RAFFERTY of York,  
Representatives: BOYER of Cape Elizabeth, FRIEDMANN of Bar Harbor, KUHN of  
Falmouth, PUGH of Portland.

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

**Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12002** is enacted to read:

**§12002. Coyote-killing contests prohibited**

**1. "Coyote-killing contest" defined.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, "coyote-killing contest" means an organized or sponsored competition with the objective of killing coyotes for prizes or entertainment.

**2. Coyote-killing contests prohibited.** A person may not:

A. Arrange, cause, hold, organize, plan or sponsor a coyote-killing contest;

B. Provide the venue for a coyote-killing contest;

C. Entice a person to knowingly take part in a coyote-killing contest; or

D. Knowingly take part in a coyote-killing contest.

A person who violates this subsection commits a Class E crime.

**3. Defense of person or property and sanctioned culling.** This section may not be construed to prohibit a person from protecting a person or property or a municipal, county or state employee's sanctioned culling of coyotes.

## SUMMARY

This bill prohibits coyote-killing contests. It provides that a person who arranges, provides a venue for, entices a person to knowingly take part in or knowingly takes part in a coyote-killing contest commits a Class E crime. It specifies that the law prohibiting coyote-killing contests may not be construed to prohibit the defense of a person or property or a government employee's sanctioned culling of coyotes.