

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
130<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND  
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

July 2022

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## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

### **LD 116 An Act Relating to the Hunting of Antlerless Deer**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 599 does the following.

1. It creates a \$12 antlerless deer permit fee. The revenue from the \$12 antlerless deer permit fee is deposited in the Maine Deer Management Fund, less administrative costs.
2. It allows super pack license holders to use their antlerless deer permit in wildlife management areas where 2,000 or more antlerless permits are issued.
3. It eliminates swaps and transfers of permits for game animals, except moose. It also eliminates resident hunter antlerless deer permit transfers and antlerless deer permit transfers to a junior hunter.
4. It repeals the law which temporally permits the use of crossbows to hunt deer and turkey during the fall turkey season. Instead, the use of crossbows is allowed on an ongoing basis during the open archery season and during the fall turkey hunting season.
5. It authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to allow hunters to take antlerless deer without an antlerless deer permit in certain areas of the State. The law provides that if the commissioner establishes by rule a lottery system for issuing antlerless deer permits, the commissioner may also allow direct issuance of additional antlerless deer permits in certain areas of the State.
6. It directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to determine the statutory changes needed to equate crossbows and vertical bows for purposes of the hunting laws and to report these changes, along with the anticipated cost and timeline for the changes, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife by January 3, 2023. The committee is authorized to report out a bill on this subject matter to the First Regular or any special session of the 131st Legislature.

### **LD 1813 An Act Related to Oversized All-terrain Vehicles**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 526 allows oversized all-terrain vehicles to be operated without registration by business owners on private land for commercial purposes, with written permission of the landowner.

Public Law 2021, chapter 526 was enacted as an emergency measure on March 31, 2022.