

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 465

H. P. 371

House of Representatives, January 29, 1975

Referred to Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Kelley of Machias.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Require Nonresidents of Maine to Use the Services of a Maine Guide when Hunting in Washington County.

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

12 MRSA, § 2055 is enacted to read:

§ 2055. Nonresidents of Maine intending to hunt in Washington County required to use the services of a registered Maine guide

1. Guide required. No person who is not a legal resident of Maine shall hunt within the boundaries of Washington County without the services of a resident guide licensed under chapter 307. No guide providing services to a nonresident under this section shall guide more than 4 nonresidents at any one time.

2. Responsibilities of guide.

A. Any guide providing services to nonresident hunters under this section shall be responsible for ensuring that those hunters are properly licensed for any hunting they intend to engage in, for ensuring that those hunters obey all laws relating to inland fisheries and game and for ensuring that those hunters submit their licenses to any proper official, including any inland fisheries and game warden, who wishes to examine those hunting licenses.

B. Any guide providing services to nonresident hunters under this section shall report to an inland fisheries and game warden any violation of the inland fisheries and game laws, rules or regulations by any member of his hunting party within 24 hours after the violation has occurred.

3. Buttons required. The commissioner or his designee shall issue a blaze orange, numbered button to each guide providing services to nonresi-

dents hunting in Washington County and that guide shall wear that button so that it is visible while he is engaged in providing services to those non-residents. In addition, the commissioner or his designee shall issue to that guide numbered buttons which shall be distributed to each nonresident hunter engaging the services of that guide under this section. Each nonresident shall wear the numbered button issued him so that it is clearly visible.

4. Penalties.

A. Any person not a legal resident of Maine who hunts in Washington County without the services of a guide registered under chapter 307 shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$200.

B. After a public hearing and upon a finding by the commissioner or his designee that a guide providing services under this section has failed to report to an inland fisheries and game warden any violation of the inland fisheries and game laws, rules or regulations by any member of his hunting party within 24 hours after that violation occurs, the commissioner or his designee shall revoke the license of that guide for a period of 5 years.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires that persons who are not residents of Maine and who wish to hunt in Washington County must engage the services of a Maine guide.