

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 598

H. P. 479

House of Representatives, February 11, 1975

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Hall of Sangerville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Concerning the Carrying of Firearms Suitable for Hunting in a Motor Vehicle.

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

12 MRSA § 2456-A is enacted to read:

§ 2456-A. Transportation of firearms in a motor vehicle

1. Person possessing a rifle or shotgun in a motor vehicle travelling on an unpaved road. No person shall possess a rifle or shotgun in or on a motor vehicle which is travelling on any unpaved public or private road within this State, unless he carries a hunting license on his person. This section shall not apply to any federal, state, county or municipal law enforcement official while in the performance of his duty.

2. Rifles or shotguns carried in motor vehicles outside of hunting seasons. No person shall possess a rifle or shotgun in a motor vehicle unless it is carried securely wrapped in a complete cover, fastened in a case or carried in at least 2 separate pieces in such a manner that it cannot be fired unless the separate pieces are joined together again. For the purpose of this subsection, a clip, magazine or cylinder of a firearm shall not be considered a piece of that firearm. This subsection shall not apply to a rifle carried in a motor vehicle during the open season on deer or to a shotgun carried in a motor vehicle during the bird hunting season.

3. Penalties. Any person who violates subsections 1 or 2 shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$250 or by imprisonment for not more than 14 days, or by both.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The first section of this Act is intended to help solve the problem of the nonresident hunter who does not buy a Maine hunting license until after he has killed a deer.

The 2nd section of this Act is intended to prevent deer from being killed during the summer months by people carrying guns in pickup trucks, cars and campers. This subsection would also help prevent some woodsmen from shooting deer when going to and from work in the woods.