

# ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

# Legislative Document

## No. 186

S. P. 78

In Senate, January 27, 1977

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

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary Presented by Senator O'Leary of Oxford (by request).

# STATE OF MAINE

# IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN

## AN ACT to Permit Sunday Hunting in the Southern District During Deer Season.

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

12 MRSA § 2454, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 516, § 15, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

### § 2454. Hunting on Sunday

1. Sunday hunting prohibited. Except as set forth in subsection 2, it shall be unlawful to hunt wild birds or wild animals on Sunday. Possession of firearms in the fields and forests, or on the waters or ice of this State or in a motor vehicle being operated on an unpaved highway or road located in an unorganized township, on Sunday shall be prima facie evidence of hunting, unless that firearm 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 section, a clip, magazine or cylinder of a firearm shall not be considered a piece of that firearm.

2. Sunday hunting of deer in southern zone permitted for Maine residents. Maine residents may hunt deer from noon until sunset on Sundays which fall within the open season on deer. Hunting under this subsection shall only be permitted in that area of the State south of U.S. route 2 and west of the Kennebec River.

### STATEMENT OF FACT

At present, the working men and women of Maine have only a limited time to hunt deer during the deer season as they are prohibited from hunting on Sunday. This bill will allow them to hunt deer in the southern zone of the State for an additional half day each week during the open season on deer.

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