

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 764

H. P. 623

House of Representatives, March 8, 1977

On motion of Mr. MacEachern of Lincoln referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. McKean of Limestone.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Concerning Possession of Spruce Grouse.

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

12 MRSA § 1960-A, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 739, § 2, is further amended by inserting before the last paragraph a new paragraph to read:

Any person authorized under chapters 301 to 335, or under regulations promulgated by the commissioner, to possess 2 or more ruffed grouse may possess one spruce grouse in place of one of those ruffed grouse.

STATEMENT OF FACT

At present, a regulation of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife prohibits possession of any spruce grouse, although it permits possession of up to 4 ruffed grouse. However, it is impossible when hunting grouse to distinguish at a distance between ruffed grouse and spruce grouse. This bill provides that a person who has killed what he thought was a ruffed grouse only to find it is a spruce grouse will not be penalized for his mistake, as he will be permitted to have one spruce grouse in his possession.