

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

**Legislative Document**

**No. 352**

H. P. 277

House of Representatives, February 6, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife. Sent up for concurrence and 1,800 ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Masterman of Milo.

Cosponsor: Mr. Kelleher of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Establish a Uniform Opening Day for Deer Hunting.**

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

**12 MRSA § 2353, next to the last ¶**, as amended by PL 1977, c. 43, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

**The commissioner is authorized to shorten the open season on deer in any area of the State, subject to the following conditions.**

- 1. Opening day.** The deer season is to commence on the same day throughout the State.
- 2. Boundaries.** If the season is shortened in any area of the State, the demarcation of the area with shortened season is to follow recognizable physical boundaries, such as rivers and railroad right-of-ways.
- 3. Notice.** The determination is to be made and published prior to September 1st of each year.
- 4. Resident hunters.** The Saturday preceding the first day of the open season on deer shall be an open day for residents of this State only.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill establishes a uniform opening day for deer hunting. The commissioner may, however, shorten the season in any area of the State where he considers it necessary by closing the season early. The bill also requires the use of recognizable physical boundaries to delineate areas with different deer hunting seasons. It is important for hunters in the field to be able to recognize the boundaries of areas with different deer seasons.