MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

TENTH LEGISLATURE ONE HUNDRED AND

Legislative Document

No. 1040

H. P. 871

House of Representatives, February 26, 1981 Referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Jacques of Waterville.

Cosponsors: Senator Usher of Cumberland and Representative Conners of Franklin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT to Require Persons Being Licensed to Hunt for the First Time to Have Completed a Gun Safety Course.

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

- Sec. 1. 12 MRSA § 7035, sub-§ 10, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 420, § 1, is amended to read:
 - A. The commissioner may establish a program for training minors individuals in the safe handling of firearms and for this purpose may cooperate with any public or private association or organization having as one of its objectives the promotion of safety in firearms handing.
- Sec. 2. 12 MRSA § 7035, sub-§ 10, ¶B, sub-¶ (3), as enacted by PL 1979, c. 420, § 1, is amended to read:
 - (3) He shall issue a certificate of competency to minors individuals who successfully complete the examination.
 - Sec. 3. 12 MRSA § 7071, sub-§ 7 is enacted to read:
- 7. Hunter safety course. No person applying, for the first time, for any Maine license for hunting with firearms is eligible for a license or permit under this chapter unless he first shows to the issuing agent a certificate of competency in

firearms issued upon successful completion of a hunter safety course offered by the National Rifle Association.

Sec. 4. Effective date. Section 2 of this Act is effective on January 1, 1983.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires any first time applicants for any license to hunt with a firearm to show that he has successfully completed a National Rifleman Association hunter safety course. This bill is effective January 1, 1983. The commissioner would be authorized to extend the current department program to persons other than minors.