

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

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Legislative Document

No. 1389

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H.P. 962

House of Representatives, April 1, 1991

Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 24.  
Reference to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative CARROLL of Southwest Harbor.

Cosponsored by Representative BAILEY of Township 27 and Representative ROTONDI of Athens.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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**An Act to Increase Hunting Opportunity by Allowing Sunday Hunting in  
Unorganized Townships.**

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

2  
3 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7406, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 420,  
4 §1, is amended to read:

6 4. Hunting on Sunday. A person is guilty, except as  
7 provided in subsection 20, paragraph C, of hunting on Sunday if  
8 he that person hunts wild animals or wild birds on Sunday.

10 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7406, sub-§20, ¶C is enacted to read:

12 C. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 4, a person  
13 may hunt wild animals and wild birds on Sunday in any  
14 unorganized or deorganized township.

16 Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7945, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 420, §1, is  
17 amended to read:

18 **§7945. Possession of firearms on Sunday**

20 Possession of firearms in the fields or forests or on the  
21 waters or ice within any organized or incorporated city or town  
22 in the State ~~or in a motor vehicle being operated on an unpaved~~  
23 highway or road located in an unorganized township on Sunday is  
24 prima facie evidence of a violation of section 7406, subsection  
25 4, unless:

28 1. **Firearm covered.** The firearm is carried, securely  
29 wrapped, in a complete cover;

30 2. **Firearm fastened.** The firearm is fastened in a case; or

32 3. **Firearm in pieces.** The firearm is carried in at least 2  
33 separate pieces in such a manner that it cannot can not be fired,  
34 unless the separate pieces are joined together. For the purpose  
35 of this subsection, a clip, magazine or cylinder of a firearm  
36 shall is not be considered a piece of the firearm.

38  
40 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

42 This bill is to legalize Sunday hunting in unorganized  
43 townships. Any person with a valid Maine hunting license would  
44 be allowed to hunt any wild bird or wild animal on Sunday during  
45 the open season on that species in unorganized and deorganized  
46 areas of the State in accordance with all other applicable laws  
47 and regulations. This would encourage people to travel away from  
48 urban areas for purposes of hunting and, at the same time,  
49 provide additional hunting opportunity for Maine residents who  
50 are often required to work the other six days of the week.