

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 1666

H.P. 1141

House of Representatives, April 24, 1991

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 CONSTANTINE of Bar Harbor.

Cosponsored by Representative CATHCART of Orono and Representative LEBOWITZ of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Amend the Laws Concerning Hunting on Private Property.

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

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Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7406, sub-§20, ¶C is enacted to read:

C. Notwithstanding subsection 21, a person is not guilty of hunting without permission if that person lacks written permission and carries a firearm or bow and arrow onto property of another in the unorganized territory or deorganized townships.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7406, sub-§21 is enacted to read:

21. Hunting without permission. A person is guilty of hunting without permission if that person enters the property of another with a firearm or a bow and arrow and without written permission of the owner or, in the case of privately owned rights-of-way, without the written permission of the abutting landowners. It is sufficient written permission if the property is posted as open to hunting or if the property is owned by the State and is open to hunting pursuant to state law or rule.

Sec. 3. 30-A MRSA §4303 is enacted to read:

§4303. Maps of land open to hunting

Municipalities may maintain and make available to the public maps or map overlays indicating which properties are open to hunting pursuant to Title 12, section 7406, subsection 20, paragraph C and Title 12, section 7406, subsection 21.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill makes hunting without written permission a prohibited act under the fish and wildlife laws. Hunting without permission is defined as carrying a firearm or bow and arrow onto the property of another without written permission unless the property is owned by the State and open to hunting or is posted as open to hunting. A person is not guilty of hunting without permission if that person lacks written permission but is hunting on land in unorganized territory. Municipalities are encouraged to make maps available showing areas open to hunting.