

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

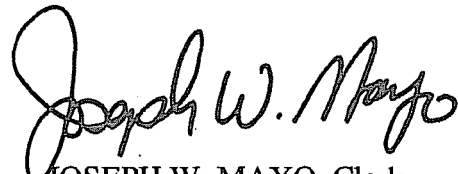
No. 1016

H.P. 749

House of Representatives, March 25, 1993

**An Act Authorizing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
to Establish Open and Closed Seasons on the Hunting of Bear.**

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.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative JACQUES of Waterville.
Cosponsored by Senator HALL of Piscataquis and
Representative: FARREN of Cherryfield.

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

2
4 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7451, sub-§1, ¶A, as amended by PL 1987, c.
171, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

6 A. The commissioner may establish open and closed seasons
8 on the hunting and trapping of bear and adopt rules
10 necessary for the implementation, enforcement and
12 interpretation of this section.

14 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7451, sub-§1, ¶B, as repealed and replaced by
16 PL 1981, c. 224, §1, is repealed.

18 Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7451, sub-§1, ¶C, as amended by PL 1989, c.
20 493, §29, is repealed.

22 Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §7451, sub-§1, ¶D, as amended by PL 1989, c.
24 913, Pt. A, §7, is repealed.

26 Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §7451, sub-§1, ¶E, as enacted by PL 1981, c.
28 224, §1, is repealed.

30 Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §7451, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1987, c. 696,
32 §9, is further amended to read:

34 3. **Placing of bear bait.** Placing of bear bait shall must
36 be in conformity with the following provisions.

38 A. Bait may not be used to hunt black bear, unless:

40 (1) The bait is placed at least 50 yards from any
42 travel way that is accessible by a conventional 2-wheel
44 or 4-wheel drive vehicle;

46 (2) The stand, blind and bait area are tagged by a
48 2-inch by 4-inch tag with the name and address of the
baiter;

(3) The bait is placed more than 500 yards from any
dump or campground;

(4) The bait is placed more than 500 yards from an
occupied dwelling, unless written permission is granted
by the owner or leasee; and

~~(5) The bait is placed not more than 30 days before
the opening day of the season and not after October
31st;~~

2 ~~(6) -- The bait areas will be cleaned up by November 10,~~
 ~~as defined by the state litter laws, and~~

4 (7) The person hunting from any stand or blind of
6 another person has permission of the owner of that
 stand or blind.

8
10 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

12 This bill allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and
14 Wildlife to establish open and closed seasons on the hunting of
16 bear and to adopt other rules necessary for the protection of the
18 bear resource. A general open season on bear hunting as well as
 an open season on bear hunting using dogs are currently
 established by law. This bill gives the commissioner the
 flexibility needed to establish bear hunting seasons that
 maximize the opportunity to hunt bear and at the same time ensure
 the welfare of the resource.