

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 720

S.P. 269

In Senate, March 2, 1995

**An Act to Allow All Hunters to Hunt Deer on the 5th Saturday Preceding  
Thanksgiving.**

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Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HALL of Piscataquis.

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

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**Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7457, sub-§1, ¶A**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 170, is further amended to read:

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A. Except as otherwise provided in this section or by rule adopted by the commissioner pursuant to this section, there is an open season on deer in each calendar year in all counties of the State from the 5th ~~Monday~~ Saturday preceding Thanksgiving to November 30th. In any year when November 30th falls on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, the commissioner may, by rule, extend the open season on deer to the first Saturday in December. In any year in which the commissioner extends the season beyond November 30th, the commissioner shall by rule open the season in the northern portion of the State a week before opening the season in the southern portion of the State. The commissioner may by rule establish for this purpose a northern and a southern zone.

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**Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7457, sub-§1, ¶E**, as amended by PL 1983, c. 271, is further amended to read:

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E. The commissioner may shorten the open season on deer in any part of the State, provided that:

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(1) The demarcation of the areas with the shortened season ~~follow~~ follows recognizable physical boundaries, such as rivers and railroad rights-of-way; and

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(2) The determination is made and published prior to June 1st of any year; ~~and,~~

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~~(3)---The---Saturday---preceding---the---first---day---of---open season---on---deer---shall---be---an---open---day---for---residents---of this---State---only.~~

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**STATEMENT OF FACT**

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This bill allows all deer hunters, residents and nonresidents, to begin hunting deer on the same day.