

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 872

H.P. 649

House of Representatives, March 21, 1995

**An Act to Allow Hunting on the First Sunday after the First Saturday of
Hunting Season.**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative CAMERON of Rumford.

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

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

4. **Hunting on Sunday.** A person is guilty of hunting on Sunday if he the person hunts wild animals or wild birds on Sunday, except for the first Sunday after the first Saturday of deer hunting season, when the person may hunt for deer.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7457, sub-§1, ¶A, as amended by PL 1991, c. 170, is further amended to read:

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 4th Monday 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.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7457, sub-§1, ¶E, as amended by PL 1983, c. 271, is further amended to read:

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

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

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

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

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill shortens the hunting season by one week, and adds the first Sunday after the first Saturday of deer hunting season as a day when hunting is permitted.