

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 203

H.P. 161

House of Representatives, January 16, 1997

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**An Act Regarding Trap-tending Requirements.**

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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 "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative PAUL of Sanford.  
Cosponsored by Senator HALL of Piscataquis and  
Representatives: BOUFFARD of Lewiston, CLARK of Millinocket, DEXTER of Kingfield.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7432, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1989, c. 913,**  
Pt. B, §6, is repealed.

6 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7432, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:**

8 2-A. Failure to visit traps. Except as provided in  
10 subsection 14, paragraph C, a person is guilty of failure to  
visit traps if that person:

12 A. While trapping in any organized or incorporated place,  
14 fails to visit each trap, except killer-type traps, or fails  
to cause each trap to be visited at least once in every  
16 calendar day;

18 B. While trapping in any organized or incorporated place,  
fails to visit each killer-type trap or fails to cause each  
20 trap to be visited at least once in every 3 calendar days;

22 C. While trapping in any unorganized place, fails to visit  
each trap, except killer-type traps, and water sets or fails  
24 to cause each trap to be visited at least once in every  
calendar day; or

26 D. While trapping in any unorganized place, fails to visit  
each killer-type trap or water set or fails to cause each  
28 trap to be visited at least once in every 5 calendar days.

30 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7432, sub-§14, ¶C is enacted to read:**

32 C. The requirements of subsection 2-A do not apply to  
34 under ice water sets for beaver and muskrat.

36 **SUMMARY**

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40 Current law requires that all traps set in organized towns,  
except under ice water sets for beaver and muskrat, be tended by  
42 the trapper at least once in every calendar day.

44 In the unorganized townships, all foothold traps set on land  
must be tended each day, but killer-type traps and water sets  
46 need be visited only once in every 5-day period.

48 This bill changes the trap-tending requirement for  
killer-type traps set in organized towns and requires that these  
traps be tended at least once every 3 days.

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This change in the trap-tending laws will not apply to under ice water sets for beaver and muskrat during the winter months.