



118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1248

H.P. 905

House of Representatives, February 25, 1997

An Act to Permit the Hunting of Birds on Sundays during a Specified Open Hunting Season.

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

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town. Cosponsored by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln and Representatives: JONES of Bar Harbor, MACK of Standish, PERRY of Bangor, Senator: RUHLIN of Penobscot.

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:

6 4. Hunting on Sunday. A person is guilty of hunting on
Sunday if he the person hunts wild animals er-wild-birds on
8 Sunday.

10 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7455, as amended by PL 1985, c. 718, §9, is further amended to read:

§7455. Birds

The open season on hunting partridge shall-not-extend-any later-than and migratory game birds, including waterfowl, extends from the 5th Monday preceding Thanksgiving to November 30th in any calendar year in-Wildlife-Management-Units-1-and-2,-nor-any later--than--December--10th--in--any-calendar--year--in--Wildlife Management-Units-3,--4,--5,--6,--7-and--8, except as provided in subsection 1.

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 Open and closed season. Whenever a section or sections
of the State are closed to hunting by proclamation of the Governor or by the commissioner during the open season on birds,
the commissioner, after the proclamation has been annulled, with the consent of the Governor, may extend the open season for bird
hunting in that section or those sections of the State for a period not to exceed the number of days lost.

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Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7456, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 420, §1, is amended to read:

34 1. Illegal use of migratory game birds. A person is guilty of illegal use of migratory game birds if he the person hunts, possesses, transports, buys or sells any migratory game bird, 36 except in the manner and numbers, and by the means specifically 38 permitted by regulations of the United States Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Public Law, July 3, 1918, chapter 128, as amended, by section 7455 or by rules promulgated adopted by the 40 commissioner in conformity with the Maine Administrative 42 Procedure Act, Title 5, Part 18, except section 8052, subsection 3 of that Act.

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SUMMARY

48 This bill permits the hunting of partridge and migratory game birds, including waterfowl, from the 5th Monday preceding 50 Thanksgiving to November 30th, including Sundays. The bill allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, as well 52 as the Governor, to close certain sections of the State to hunting.

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