

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 728

H.P. 521

House of Representatives, January 26, 1999

An Act to Prohibit Closed Hunts.

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 DUNLAP of Old Town.
Cosponsored by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln and
Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, STANLEY of
Medway, TRUE of Fryeburg, WILLIAMS of Orono, Senators: NUTTING of Androscoggin,
RAND of Cumberland.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7406, sub-§22 is enacted to read:**

6 22. Closed hunts. A person is guilty of a closed hunt
8 violation if that person organizes or participates in a closed
10 hunt of game in which privately owned game is released into an
12 enclosed area for the purpose of hunting.

14 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7901, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1989, c. 252,**
16 **§2, is further amended to read:**

18 **2. Class D crimes.** A violation of section 7406, subsection
20 1, as it applies to deer; of section 7406, subsection 5; of
22 section 7406, subsection 10, when the wild animal or bird was
24 taken in violation of section 7406, subsection 5; of section
26 7406, subsection 22 as it relates to organizing a closed hunt; of
28 section 7458, subsection 1 or 2; or of section 7464, subsection 1
or 2, is a Class D crime, ~~provided that~~ for which the convicted
person shall ~~shall~~ must be imprisoned for not less than 3 days for the
first offense and for not less than 10 days for each succeeding
offense, this imprisonment not to be suspended, and shall ~~shall~~ must be
fined not less than \$1,000, this fine not to be suspended.

26 SUMMARY

28 This bill prohibits closed hunts and sets penalties for
organizing or participating in closed hunts.