

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1026

H.P. 736

House of Representatives, February 9, 1999

**An Act to Allow Crossbow Use During Archery Season by a Person who
has Lost the Use of a Hand.**

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 COWGER of Hallowell.
Cosponsored by Senator DOUGLASS of Androscoggin and
Representatives: CAMERON of Rumford, DUNLAP of Old Town, LEMOINE of Old
Orchard Beach, MITCHELL of Vassalboro, PIEH of Bremen, SCHNEIDER of Durham,
Senators: KIEFFER of Aroostook, NUTTING of Androscoggin.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7076, sub-§15 is enacted to read:**

6 15. Persons with loss of hand. The commissioner may issue
8 an archery hunting license to a person who has permanently lost
10 the use of one or both hands permitting that person to hunt with
12 a crossbow.

14 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7102-A, sub-§6, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1993, c.**
16 **24, §3 and affected §7, is amended to read:**

18 A. It is legal, except as otherwise provided in chapters
20 701 to 721, to hunt any wild bird or wild animal with a
22 hand-held bow and arrow during any open season on that bird
24 or animal and with a crossbow if the holder has been issued
26 a license pursuant to section 7076, subsection 15.

28 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7406, sub-§20, ¶B, as repealed and replaced**
30 **by PL 1981, c. 414, §27, is amended to read:**

32 B. The following are exceptions concerning subsection 17.

34 (1) Paragraphs A, B, C, D, E and F do not apply to
36 military organizations authorized by law to bear arms
38 or to the National Guard in the performance of its
40 duty.

42 (2) Paragraphs B, D and E do not apply to firearms
44 using the .22 caliber rim fire cartridge or to any
46 autoloading pistol having a barrel less than 8 inches
48 in length.

50 (3) Paragraph K does not affect or restrict the
legitimate possession and sale of flashlights.

(4) Paragraph L does not affect chapter 709,
subchapter IV, or any rule issued in accordance with
section 7035, subsection 1.

(5) Paragraph G does not apply to a person issued a
license pursuant to section 7076, subsection 15.

SUMMARY

This bill allows a person who has permanently lost the use
of one or both hands to use a crossbow during the archery hunting
season and during any open season.