

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 760

H.P. 605

House of Representatives, February 13, 2001

### **An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Bear Baiting.**

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative McKEE of Wayne.

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

2  
3. **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7104-A, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.  
4 216, §1, is amended to read:

6 **3. Fees for placing bear bait.** Fees, if the fees are less  
7 than \$5, that are directly related to the placing of bear bait on  
8 land.

10 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7451, sub-§3, ¶A**, as amended by PL 1997, c.  
11 432, §42, is further amended to read:

12 A. Bait may not be used to hunt or trap black bear, unless:

14 (1) The bait is placed at least 50 yards from any  
15 travel way that is accessible by a conventional 2-wheel  
16 or 4-wheel drive vehicle;

18 (2) The stand, blind or bait area is plainly labeled  
19 with a 2-inch by 4-inch tag with the name and address  
20 of the baiter;

22 (3) The bait is placed more than 500 yards from any  
23 dump or campground;

25 (4) The bait is placed more than 500 yards from an  
26 occupied dwelling, unless written permission is granted  
27 by the owner or leasee;

29 (5) The bait is placed not more than 30 days before  
30 the opening day of the season and not after October  
31 31st;

33 (6) The bait areas will be cleaned up by November  
34 10th, as defined by the state litter laws; and

36 (7) The person hunting from any stand or blind of  
37 another person has permission of the owner of that  
38 stand or blind;

40 (8) The person hunting obtains the written permission  
41 of the land owner or the landowner's agent for each  
42 bait placed;

44 (9) A written permission required under subparagraph  
45 (8) contains the name and address of the person who  
46 granted the permission and the name and address of the  
47 person who received the permission to place each bait;

- 2                   (10) A written permission required under subparagraph  
                  (8) identifies the specific geographical location of  
                  each bear baiting site;
- 4
- 6                   (11) A copy of each written permission required under  
                  subparagraph (8) is filed with the department; and
- 8
- 10                   (12) The stand or blind is placed no closer than 300  
                  feet from the bait.

12                   **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7452, sub-§1-E** is enacted to read:

14                   1-E. Exceeding number of bear baits. A person is guilty of  
16                   exceeding the number of bear baits if that person has in place  
                  more than 10 bear baits at any one time.

18                   **SUMMARY**

20

22                   This bill amends the laws regarding bear baiting by adding  
24                   language that clarifies that a fee that is less than \$5 may be  
26                   charged for the placing of bear bait. The bill also requires  
                  that a person who places bear bait must get permission in writing  
                  from the landowner. The bill prohibits the placing of a stand or  
                  blind within 300 feet from the bait and prohibits a person  
                  placing more than 10 bear baits at one time.