



121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1063

H.P. 781

House of Representatives, March 4, 2003

An Act Concerning Municipal Firearms Discharge Ordinances

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

Millient M. Mac Jailand

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk

Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town. Cosponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford and Representatives: WATSON of Bath, WHEELER of Kittery, WOTTON of Littleton, Senator: CARPENTER of York.

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

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Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §3007, sub-§5, as amended by PL 1999, c. 154, §1, is further amended to read:

6 5. Firearms and bows and arrows. A municipality shall consult with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife throughout the process of the consideration of the adoption or 8 amendment of a firearm discharge ordinance. The area in which the discharge of firearms is prohibited by a firearm discharge 10 ordinance must be described in the ordinance using clearly 12 defined physical boundaries. For purposes of this subsection, the term "clearly defined physical boundaries" includes roads, 14 waterways and utility corridors. A municipality that adopts a firearm discharge ordinance shall prepare a wildlife management plan to prevent overpopulation of game animals in the area in 16 which the discharge of firearms is prohibited by the firearm discharge ordinance. After January 1, 2000, a municipality that 18 adopts or amends a firearm discharge ordinance shall provide the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife with a copy of the 20 new or amended firearm discharge ordinance and a copy of any maps 22 that show the areas in the municipality affected by the new or amended ordinance within 30 days from the date that the ordinance is enacted or amended. A municipality may not include bows and 24 arrows in any firearms discharge ordinance.

SUMMARY

30 This bill requires a municipality to consult with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife throughout the 32 process of consideration of the adoption or amendment of a firearm discharge ordinance. The area in which the discharge of 34 firearms is prohibited must be described in the ordinance using clearly defined physical boundaries. A municipality that adopts 36 a firearm discharge ordinance shall prepare a wildlife management plan to prevent overpopulation of game animals in the area in 38 which the discharge of firearms is prohibited by the firearm discharge ordinance.