

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 548

H.P. 426

House of Representatives, February 5, 2007

An Act To Prevent Abuse of Pet Ownership Rights

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative MAKAS of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin and
Representatives: GERZOFSKY of Brunswick, GILES of Belfast, GROSE of Woolwich,
HARLOW of Portland, HINCK of Portland, KNIGHT of Livermore Falls, WAGNER of
Lewiston, Senator: TURNER of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §4011, sub-§1-A, ¶B,** as enacted by PL 1995, c. 490, §21, is
3 amended to read:

4 B. A person who owns a cat or dog, or the owner's agent, may kill that owner's cat
5 or dog by shooting with a firearm provided only if the shooting is done to protect
6 public safety or to end the suffering of a severely injured or ill cat or dog and the
7 following conditions are met.

8 (1) The shooting is performed by a person 18 years of age or older using a
9 weapon and ammunition of suitable caliber and other characteristics to produce
10 instantaneous death by a single shot.

11 (2) Death is instantaneous.

12 (3) Maximum precaution is taken to protect the general public, employees and
13 other animals.

14 (4) Any restraint of the cat or dog during the shooting does not cause undue
15 suffering to the cat or dog.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill allows the owner of a cat or dog to shoot that cat or dog only if it is done to
18 protect the safety of the public or to end the severely injured or ill cat or dog's suffering.