

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 1387

H.P. 979

House of Representatives, March 13, 2007

An Act Concerning the Taking of Nuisance Animals

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative SAVAGE of Falmouth. (BY REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Senator SAVAGE of Knox and
Representatives: ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft, JOY of Crystal, LANSLEY of Sabattus,
MILLETT of Waterford, PLUMMER of Windham, PRIEST of Brunswick, ROBINSON of
Raymond.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12402, sub-§3, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2
3 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

4 B. In all cases of deer, bear, moose or wild turkey, immediately and properly dress
5 the carcass or carcasses and care for the meat. When the meat is being distributed to
6 recipients authorized under the Hunters for the Hungry Program established in
7 section 10108, subsection 8, the person shall inform the department within 24 hours
8 that the meat is ready to be picked up.

9 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §12402, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and
10 affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

11 **4. Warden's certificate.** A game warden shall investigate an incident under this
12 section as soon as possible and, if the game warden is satisfied that the wild animal or
13 wild turkey was taken as provided in this section, give the person who killed the wild
14 animal or wild turkey a certificate that entitles the cultivator, ~~owner~~ commercial farmer,
15 mortgagee or keeper of the orchard or growing crop to own the carcass or carcasses,
16 which may be possessed and consumed only within the immediate family of the
17 cultivator, ~~owner~~ commercial farmer, mortgagee or keeper of the orchard or growing
18 crop, or, in accordance with the labeling requirements for possession of deer, bear, moose
19 or wild turkey, to transfer possession of those wild animals or wild turkeys to another
20 person. Any excess carcasses after the first 2 carcasses of ~~deer~~, bear, moose or wild
21 turkey or after the first 5 carcasses of deer killed or taken under subsection 1 or 2 must be
22 distributed to recipients authorized through the Hunters for the Hungry Program
23 established in section 10108, subsection 8 or as otherwise authorized by the game
24 warden.

25 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill allows a person to kill up to 2 wild animals or wild turkeys or 5 deer
27 annually on that person's property if a game warden issues a permit because of crop
28 damage. If a person kills more than 2 wild animals or wild turkeys or 5 deer, the
29 carcasses of deer, bear, moose or wild turkeys killed or taken must be distributed to
30 recipients authorized through the Hunters for the Hungry Program and the Department of
31 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife must be notified within 24 hours that the meat is ready to be
32 picked up.