MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 55

H.P. 48

House of Representatives, January 11, 2011

An Act To Restore Hunting Rights in the Katahdin Lake Region

(EMERGENCY)

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

Heathfl Huit
HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative DAVIS of Sangerville.

Cosponsored by Senator THOMAS of Somerset and

Representatives: CELLI of Brewer, CLARK of Millinocket, CRAFTS of Lisbon, FREDETTE of Newport, GIFFORD of Lincoln, LONG of Sherman, WOOD of Sabattus, Senator:

TRAHAN of Lincoln.

1 Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and 3 Whereas, hunting was a traditional use on the lands surrounding Katahdin Lake 4 until the transfer of these lands for inclusion in Baxter State Park: and 5 Whereas, these lands have been closed to hunting for 4 years; and 6 Whereas, the season for hunting game begins before the expiration of the 90-day 7 period; and 8 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 9 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as 10 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, 11 12 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: 13 Sec. 1. Baxter State Park Authority to allow hunting on certain lands. 14 The Baxter State Park Authority shall allow hunting on an approximately 4,040-acre parcel of land located in the northwestern quadrant of Township 3, Range 8, W.E.L.S. 15 16 and commonly referred to as "the Katahdin Lake parcel." On December 13, 2006, Gardner Land Company, Inc. of the Town of Lincoln transferred the Katahdin Lake 17 18 parcel by a quitclaim deed with covenant to the Baxter State Park Authority for inclusion 19 in Baxter State Park. The boundaries of the Katahdin Lake parcel are found in Exhibit A 20 of the deed recorded on December 13, 2006 with the Penobscot County Registry of 21 Deeds in Book 10761, Page 286. 22 Sec. 2. Adoption of rules; revision to policies. The Baxter State Park 23 Authority shall revise any rules adopted under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 903 or any policies adopted by the authority that prohibit hunting on the Katahdin 24 25 Lake parcel pursuant to section 1. Any necessary revisions must be in effect no later than October 1, 2011. The general laws of the State pertaining to hunting and trapping apply 26 27 to the Katahdin Lake parcel, except that the Baxter State Park Authority may adopt rules 28 that prohibit moose hunting, the baiting of animals for hunting purposes and hunting with 29 dogs. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 30 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. 31 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this 32 legislation takes effect when approved. 33 SUMMARY

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This bill directs the Baxter State Park Authority to allow hunting on the approximately 4,040-acre parcel surrounding Katahdin Lake that was transferred to the authority for inclusion in the park in December 2006. It allows the authority to place restrictions on certain types of hunting through rulemaking.