

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

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Legislative Document

No. 1569

S.P. 502

In Senate, May 12, 2011

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**An Act To Restore the White-tailed Deer Population and Improve  
Maine's Wildlife Economy and Heritage**

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

*Joseph G. Carleton Jr.*

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President RAYE of Washington.  
Cosponsored by Representative DAVIS of Sangerville and  
Senators: MARTIN of Kennebec, TRAHAN of Lincoln, Representatives: CRAFTS of Lisbon,  
ESPLING of New Gloucester, SHAW of Standish.

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

2 **CONCEPT DRAFT**

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

5 This bill proposes to enact measures designed to restore the white-tailed deer  
6 population and improve the State's wildlife economy and heritage. These measures may  
7 include, but are not limited to:

8 1. Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to notify the custodian  
9 of any state-owned property when a deer wintering area is identified on that property and  
10 requiring the custodian of the property to ensure that the property is managed with  
11 protection of the deer wintering area as the first priority;

12 2. Directing the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of  
13 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to review existing restrictions on the amount of wood ash  
14 that may be recycled into fertilizer and soil amendments in order to make it easier to  
15 obtain and use wood ash for deer food plots; and

16 3. Amending the laws governing the Land for Maine's Future program to:

17 A. Require that, in its evaluation of potential projects, the Land for Maine's Future  
18 Board give priority to the protection of deer wintering areas;

19 B. With respect to fee acquisitions that are purchased with Land for Maine's Future  
20 funds, require state agencies with whom the Land for Maine's Future Board partners  
21 to give deer wintering area management special priority; and

22 C. Require that the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland  
23 Fisheries and Wildlife develop projects that protect deer wintering areas and submit  
24 those projects for funding to the Land for Maine's Future Board.