

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 848

S.P. 297

In Senate, March 10, 2015

An Act To Increase the Safety of Hunting

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BURNS of Washington.
Cosponsored by Representative ALLEY of Beals and
Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, DUTREMBLE of York, GERZOFKY of Cumberland,
KATZ of Kennebec, WHITTEMORE of Somerset, Representatives: DUNPHY of Embden,
SHERMAN of Hodgdon, WOOD of Sabattus.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11208, sub-§1, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2
3 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

4 A. Shoot at any wild animal or wild bird from any public paved way or within ~~40~~
5 100 feet of the edge from the center of the pavement of the public paved way or from
6 within the right-of-way of any controlled access highway;

7 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11208, sub-§2,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §139
8 and affected by §422, is amended to read:

9 **2. Penalty.** A person who violates subsection 1 commits a Class E crime for which a
10 fine of \$500 must be adjudged.

11 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §11209, sub-§2,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §140
12 and affected by §422, is amended to read:

13 **2. Penalty.** A person who violates subsection 1 commits a Class E crime for which a
14 fine of \$500 must be adjudged.

15 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §11212, sub-§1, ¶B-1** is enacted to read:

16 B-1. A person during the open firearm season on deer may not have in or on a motor
17 vehicle or in or on a trailer or other type of vehicle being hauled by a motor vehicle a
18 firearm with a rifled barrel unless that firearm is enclosed in a case.

19 **Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §11212, sub-§1, ¶C,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2
20 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

21 C. A person may not possess a wild animal or wild bird taken in violation of
22 paragraph A ~~or~~ B or B-1, except as otherwise provided in this Part.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill:

25 1. Imposes a mandatory \$500 penalty for a violation of discharging a firearm or
26 crossbow within 100 yards of a building or residential dwelling;

27 2. Increases the minimum distance for discharging a firearm to 100 feet from the
28 center of a paved road and sets a penalty of \$500 for a violation; and

29 3. Requires that a firearm with a rifled barrel in or on a motor vehicle during deer
30 hunting season be enclosed in a case.