

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 849

S.P. 298

In Senate, March 10, 2015

An Act To Protect Young Bucks

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BURNS of Washington. (BY REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Representative ALLEY of Beals and
Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, DUTREMBLE of York, GERZOFKY of Cumberland,
KATZ of Kennebec, 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 §11153-A** is enacted to read:

3 **§11153-A. Antler point restrictions**

4 The commissioner shall establish an antler point restriction system no later than
5 January 15, 2016 to increase the number of older antlered deer in the State. The system
6 must limit the take of antlered deer to those with 3 or more one-inch tines along the main
7 beam of either or both antlers. The tine restriction does not apply to a junior hunter who
8 holds a valid junior hunting license and is hunting on youth deer hunting day established
9 pursuant to section 11402, subsection 4, paragraph C.

10 The commissioner shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
11 having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters no later than January 15,
12 2021 and every 5 years thereafter concerning the implementation of the antler point
13 restriction system and any observed changes in the antlered deer population of the State.

14 The commissioner shall adopt rules to implement, administer and enforce this
15 section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in
16 Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt an
19 antler point restriction system to increase the population of older antlered deer in the
20 State. It also directs the commissioner to adopt rules to implement and enforce the
21 system.