

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 604

H.P. 381

House of Representatives, February 14, 2023

**An Act to Extend the Night Hunting Season for Coyotes to
Immediately Following the Muzzle-loading-only Deer Hunting
Season**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DAVIS of East Machias.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and
Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico, STROUT of
Harrington, UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12001, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 216, §1, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **1. Coyote hunting.** Notwithstanding the night hunting prohibitions in section 11206,
5 there is an open season for hunting coyotes at night in ~~all counties of the State~~ each wildlife
6 management district from ~~December 16th~~ the first Monday following the end of the
7 muzzle-loading-only deer hunting season established under section 11404 in the respective
8 wildlife management district to August 31st.

9 Notwithstanding section 11214, subsection 1, paragraph M, the commissioner may appoint
10 agents to hunt for coyotes at night using artificial illumination from September 1st to
11 December 15th. The commissioner shall develop policies to make the affected public and
12 affected law enforcement officers aware of any night hunting operations.

13 **SUMMARY**

14 This bill extends the night season for hunting coyotes in certain areas of the State by
15 changing the first day of the season, currently December 16th in all counties, to the first
16 Monday following the end of the muzzle-loading-only deer hunting season in each
17 respective wildlife management district.