

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

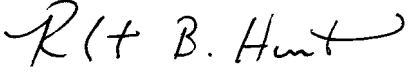
No. 1166

H.P. 738

House of Representatives, March 14, 2023

An Act to Allow Sunday Hunting by Landowners on Their Land

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


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative HALL of Wilton.
Cosponsored by Senator BLACK of Franklin and
Representatives: COSTAIN of Plymouth, LAVIGNE of Berwick, MORRIS of Turner, PAUL
of Winterport.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10501, sub-§9, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2
3 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

4 B. The hunting equipment is fastened in a case; or

5 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10501, sub-§9, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2
6 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

7 C. The hunting equipment is carried in at least 2 separate pieces in such a manner that
8 it can not be fired, unless the separate pieces are joined together. For the purpose of
9 this subsection, a clip, magazine or cylinder of a firearm may not be considered a piece
10 of the hunting equipment. Bows and arrows must be kept in a case or cover if
11 broadheads or field points are kept attached to the arrows; or

12 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §10501, sub-§9, ¶D** is enacted to read:

13 D. The person is hunting on the person's own land as provided in section 11205,
14 subsection 1-A.

15 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §11205**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §137 and affected
16 by §422, is further amended to read:

17 **§11205. Hunting on Sunday**

18 **1. Prohibition.** A person may not:

19 A. Hunt wild animals or wild birds on Sunday except as provided in subsection 1-A;
20 or

21 B. Possess any wild animal or wild bird taken in violation of paragraph A except as
22 otherwise provided in this Part.

23 **1-A. Hunting allowed on Sunday.** If a landowner owns land of 5 acres or more, the
24 landowner may hunt wild animals or wild birds on that land on Sunday subject to all other
25 requirements, laws and rules governing that hunting. The department shall adopt rules to
26 implement this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical
27 rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

28 **2. Penalties.** A person who violates subsection 1 commits a Class E crime.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill allows landowners who own land of 5 acres or more to hunt wild animals and
31 wild birds on that property on Sundays. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
32 is directed to establish rules to implement these provisions.