



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION
11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030-7400

Lauren E. LePage
State Director

Memorandum of Support

Date: February 11, 2019

To: Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

From: Lauren E. LePage

RE: LD 337 – An Act to Start a Spring Bear Hunting Season

Senator Dill, Representative Nadeau, members of the committee, on behalf of the National Rifle Association, I would like to express our support for LD 337 (Lyford – R); an act to start a spring bear hunting season.

Hunting is part of Maine's cultural heritage, an important wildlife management tool, and a critical part of Maine's economy. Bear hunting, in particular, is one of Maine's oldest traditions. The National Rifle Association supports efforts to preserve and promote our rich hunting and conservation heritage. We strongly support measures that successfully expand the opportunities available for hunting, including this legislation that would require the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a spring bear hunting season. We strongly support measures that make hunting more easily accessible to the public, and that are useful, and not harmful, to wildlife management. Maintaining these hunting opportunities requires a scientifically based approach implemented with the broadest range of effective and cost efficient measures available, including the use of hunting as a wildlife management tool.

Maine citizens, gun owners, sportsmen and women hope that you will support this important piece of legislation. Please feel free to contact me at 703-267-1243 if you have additional questions or concerns. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.