

LaCroix, Linda

From: Nandia Black <ndia@att.net>
Sent: Sunday, February 10, 2019 11:05 PM
To: IFW
Subject: Say NO to LD 337

To Linda LaCroix, Committee Clerk - Please copy and distribute the following comments to members of the IFW committee. Thank you for your assistance.

To: Chairs Senator Dill, Representative Nadeau, and Members of the IFW Committee:

I strongly oppose LD 337, an act to create a spring bear hunt in Maine.

The proposal to kill Bears in the Spring when new mothers are emerging from hibernation with their cubs is cruel and morally unacceptable! It is unconscionable that Maine already allows a fall hunting season which subjects bears to horrific deaths by rifle, shotgun, handgun, bow and arrow, crossbow, traps and hounds.

A Spring Hunting season will decimate bear families and create many orphan cubs that will suffer tragic deaths because they are far too young to survive in Maine's harsh environment alone. The very idea of putting new mothers and their babies at such risk is repugnant, and not how the people of Maine want to see their wildlife treated.

If this bill passes, Maine will become one of the most hostile states for bears in the entire country. Only a handful of states allow a spring bear hunt. Maine should continue to keep company with states that prioritize the welfare of bears, and say no to this disastrous proposal.

The vast majority of Mainers are not hunters. The interests of hunters should not supersede the public's ethical interests to keep Maine bears safe. Most Mainers chose not to engage in activities that end the lives of bears, and the committee should honor the wishes of the good people of Maine and end this proposal for a spring bear hunt immediately.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nandia Black
Kildeer, IL and Oracle, Az