



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1241

H.P. 816

House of Representatives, March 25, 2025

**An Act to Establish the Make Change for Wildlife Program to
Support the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund**

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham.
Cosponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland and
Representatives: BRIDGEO of Augusta, DILL of Old Town, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard
Beach, MATLACK of St. George, SAYRE of Kennebunk, TERRY of Gorham, Senator:
BALDACCI of Penobscot.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10253, sub-§5**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and
3 affected by c. 614, §9, is repealed.

4 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10253, sub-§6** is enacted to read:

5 **6. Make Change for Wildlife program.** The Make Change for Wildlife program is
6 established to encourage voluntary support for the fund from businesses that collect
7 voluntary customer contributions at the point of sale. Businesses may deduct customer
8 contributions up to \$10,000 annually pursuant to Title 36, section 5200-A, subsection 2,
9 paragraph JJ. All money generated pursuant to this subsection must be deposited in the
10 fund.

11 **Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §5200-A, sub-§2, ¶JJ** is enacted to read:

12 JJ. For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, an amount equal to the
13 funds voluntarily contributed by the taxpayer up to \$10,000 under Title 12, section
14 10253, subsection 6.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill repeals the Wildlife Enthusiast's Conservation Appreciation, Recreation and
17 Enjoyment, or "WE CARE," support program and establishes the Make Change for
18 Wildlife program as a way to generate voluntary contributions to benefit the Maine
19 Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund. The bill also allows businesses to deduct up to
20 \$10,000 of those amounts contributed for purposes of the corporate income tax for tax years
21 beginning on or after January 1, 2026.