



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1293

S.P. 523

In Senate, March 25, 2025

An Act to Prohibit Coyote-killing Contests in Maine

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.
Cosponsored by Representative DODGE of Belfast and
Senators: BRENNER of Cumberland, LAWRENCE of York, RAFFERTY of York,
Representatives: BOYER of Cape Elizabeth, FRIEDMANN of Bar Harbor, KUHN of
Falmouth, PUGH of Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12002** is enacted to read:

3 **§12002. Coyote-killing contests prohibited**

4 **1. "Coyote-killing contest" defined.** As used in this section, unless the context
5 otherwise indicates, "coyote-killing contest" means an organized or sponsored competition
6 with the objective of killing coyotes for prizes or entertainment.

7 **2. Coyote-killing contests prohibited.** A person may not:

8 A. Arrange, cause, hold, organize, plan or sponsor a coyote-killing contest;

9 B. Provide the venue for a coyote-killing contest;

10 C. Entice a person to knowingly take part in a coyote-killing contest; or

11 D. Knowingly take part in a coyote-killing contest.

12 A person who violates this subsection commits a Class E crime.

13 **3. Defense of person or property and sanctioned culling.** This section may not be
14 construed to prohibit a person from protecting a person or property or a municipal, county
15 or state employee's sanctioned culling of coyotes.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill prohibits coyote-killing contests. It provides that a person who arranges,
18 provides a venue for, entices a person to knowingly take part in or knowingly takes part in
19 a coyote-killing contest commits a Class E crime. It specifies that the law prohibiting
20 coyote-killing contests may not be construed to prohibit the defense of a person or property
21 or a government employee's sanctioned culling of coyotes.