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Date: (Filing No. H-)

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 321, L.D. 445, “An Act To Allow Deer Baiting by Hunters”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11452, sub-§1, as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and amended by c. 655, Pt. B, §171 and affected by §422, is further amended to read:

1. Prohibitions. A Except as may be authorized by rule under subsection 1-A, a person may not, during an open hunting season on deer:

- A. Place salt or any other bait or food in a place to entice deer to that place; or
- B. Hunt from an observation stand or blind overlooking salt, grain, fruit, nuts or other foods known to be attractive to deer. This prohibition does not apply to hunting from an observation stand or blind overlooking:
 - (1) Standing crops;
 - (2) Foods that are left as a result of normal agricultural operations or as a result of a natural occurrence; or
 - (3) Bear bait that is placed at a bear hunting stand or blind in accordance with section 11301, subsection 1.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11452, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Exception to prohibition on placing of deer bait. The commissioner may allow by rule, during the open hunting seasons on deer in calendar years 2021, 2022 and 2023, the placing of bait to entice deer in locations and in a manner determined appropriate by the commissioner. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 3. Report. The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by January 1, 2024 describing any rules adopted under the

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 11452, subsection 1-A and the commissioner's
2 findings and recommendations regarding the baiting of deer. The committee may report
3 out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature based on the report.'

4 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
5 number to read consecutively.

6 **SUMMARY**

7 This amendment allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to allow
8 by rule deer baiting during the open seasons on deer in 2021, 2022 and 2023. The
9 commissioner is required to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
10 jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters regarding the rules and the placing of
11 deer bait by January 1, 2024.

12 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

13 **(See attached)**