



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 531

H.P. 336

House of Representatives, February 9, 2023

An Act to Add Gray Squirrels to the Species List for the Open Training Season for Hunting Dogs

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 BRADSTREET of Vassalboro. (BY REQUEST)

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12051, sub-§1, ¶A**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2013, c.
3 588, Pt. A, §16, is amended to read:

4 A. A person may train dogs on foxes, snowshoe hare, gray squirrels and raccoons from
5 July 1st through the following March 31st, including Sundays.

6 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §12051, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 253, §22, is further
7 amended to read:

8 **3. Possessing firearm while training dogs.** A person may not possess a firearm while
9 training a dog outside of the open training season on foxes, snowshoe hare, gray squirrels
10 and raccoons as set out in subsection 1, paragraph A.

11 A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of
12 not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

13 B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having
14 committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period
15 commits a Class E crime.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill adds gray squirrels to the list of those animals upon which a person may train
18 dogs during the open training season for dogs.