



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 2014

S.P. 730

In Senate, March 9, 2022

An Act Related to Sunday Hunting

Reported by Senator DILL of Penobscot for the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Resolve 2021, chapter 107, section 5.

Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

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

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10501, sub-§9, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2
3 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

4 B. The hunting equipment is fastened in a case; or

5 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10501, sub-§9, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2
6 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

7 C. The hunting equipment is carried in at least 2 separate pieces in such a manner that
8 it can not be fired, unless the separate pieces are joined together. For the purpose of
9 this subsection, a clip, magazine or cylinder of a firearm may not be considered a piece
10 of the hunting equipment. Bows and arrows must be kept in a case or cover if
11 broadheads or field points are kept attached to the arrows; or

12 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §10501, sub-§9, ¶D** is enacted to read:

13 D. The person possessing the hunting equipment is hunting on Sunday pursuant to
14 section 11205, subsection 1-A.

15 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §11205**, as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and amended by c.
16 655, Pt. B, §137 and affected by §422, is further amended to read:

17 **§11205. Hunting on Sunday**

18 **1. Prohibition.** A person may not:

19 A. Hunt wild animals or wild birds on Sunday, except as provided in subsection 1-A;
20 or

21 B. Possess any wild animal or wild bird taken in violation of paragraph A except as
22 otherwise provided in this Part.

23 **1-A. Hunting allowed on Sunday in certain areas of the State; hunting allowed on**
24 **Sunday with written permission.** A person may hunt wild animals or wild birds on
25 Sunday north of U.S. Route 2 from the New Hampshire border to Bangor, north of Route
26 9 from Bangor to the Canadian border and within any portion of the White Mountain
27 National Forest in the State, subject to all other requirements, laws and rules governing that
28 hunting. In all other areas of the State, a landowner or a person with written consent of that
29 landowner may hunt wild animals or wild birds on that landowner's land on Sunday, subject
30 to all other requirements, laws and rules governing that hunting. The department shall adopt
31 rules to implement this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine
32 technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

33 **2. Penalties.** A person who violates subsection 1 commits a Class E crime.

34 **SUMMARY**

35 This bill allows persons to hunt wild animals and wild birds on Sunday north of U.S.
36 Route 2 from the New Hampshire border to Bangor, north of Route 9 from Bangor to the
37 Canadian border and within any portion of the White Mountain National Forest in the State.
38 The bill also allows landowners in all other areas in the State to hunt wild animals and wild
39 birds on their private property on Sunday. It also authorizes a person with written
40 permission from the landowner to hunt wild animals and wild birds on the landowner's

1 private property on Sunday. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is directed to
2 adopt rules to implement these provisions.