



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 763

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S.P. 321

In Senate, February 16, 2023

### **An Act to Provide Antlerless Deer Permits to Certain Landowners**

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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 GUERIN of Penobscot.  
Cosponsored by Senators: BLACK of Franklin, LYFORD of Penobscot.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11152, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 599, §11, is further  
3 amended to read:

4 **4. Landowner consideration.** An antlerless deer permit lottery adopted by the  
5 commissioner pursuant to this section may include a provision giving special consideration  
6 to landowners who keep their lands open to hunting by the public. As part of the special  
7 consideration to those landowners, the commissioner shall provide ~~at least 25% of the~~  
8 ~~available~~ an antlerless deer ~~permits~~ permit in a wildlife management district to any eligible  
9 ~~landowners~~ landowner that ~~apply~~ applies for an antlerless deer permit in that district. An  
10 eligible landowner is an individual who owns at least 10 acres of contiguous land and who  
11 does not post the landowner's land under Title 17-A, section 402. Any 2 or more areas of  
12 land owned by the same person that are open for hunting and that would be contiguous  
13 except for being divided by one or more roads are considered contiguous for the purposes  
14 of determining landowner eligibility for special consideration under this subsection.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill amends the law governing the landowner consideration for the antlerless deer  
17 permit lottery to provide special consideration for all landowners who apply for a permit  
18 and keep their lands open to hunting by the public. This bill also defines an eligible  
19 landowner as a landowner who owns at least 10 acres of contiguous land and does not post  
20 the landowner's land to prohibit hunting by others.