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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  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 441, L.D. 672, “An Act to Establish Youth Deer Hunting Weekend”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, to Establish a 3-day Youth Deer Hunting Period for 2023'**

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

**'Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** this legislation creates a 3-day youth deer hunting period in 2023 and directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to report on the impact of the youth deer hunting period in March of 2024; and

**Whereas,** the earliest date for the youth deer hunting period is expected to be October 20, 2023; and

**Whereas,** this legislation must take effect in time to prepare for the start of the 2023 deer hunting season; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

**Sec. 1. Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish 3-day youth deer hunting period. Resolved:** That, for the 2023 deer hunting season only, the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall establish, instead of a one-day youth deer hunting day, a 3-day youth deer hunting period beginning 8 days before the start of the 2023 regular deer hunting season.

**Sec. 2. Examination. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall examine the impact of the 2 additional dedicated youth deer hunting days, as required by section 1, on the deer population, on the antlerless deer population and on the

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 department's ability to meet its wildlife management goals and shall examine the impact of  
2 youth deer hunting on Sunday.

3 **Sec. 3. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than March 1, 2024, the Commissioner  
4 of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland  
5 Fisheries and Wildlife the findings and recommendations of the examination under section  
6 2 of the 2 additional dedicated youth deer hunting days, including any recommended  
7 legislation, if needed. After receiving the report, the committee may report out a bill  
8 relating to youth deer hunting to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

9 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation  
10 takes effect when approved.'

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

### 13 SUMMARY

14 This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve and does the following.

15 1. Current law provides for a one-day youth deer hunting day. The amendment  
16 establishes a 3-day youth deer hunting period for 2023 to begin 8 days before the start of  
17 the regular deer hunting season.

18 2. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to examine the impact  
19 of youth deer hunting on Sunday and the impact of 2 additional dedicated youth deer  
20 hunting days on the deer population, the antlerless deer population and wildlife  
21 management goals.

22 3. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to report to the Joint  
23 Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the findings and recommendations  
24 of the examination and authorizes the committee to report out legislation on those findings  
25 to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

26 4. It adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause.

### 27 FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

28 (See attached)