

## 127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

**Legislative Document** 

No. 849

S.P. 298

In Senate, March 10, 2015

## An Act To Protect Young Bucks

Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Secretary of the Senate

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Presented by Senator BURNS of Washington. (BY REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Representative ALLEY of Beals and
Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, DUTREMBLE of York, GERZOFSKY of Cumberland,
KATZ of Kennebec, Representatives: DUNPHY of Embden, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, WOOD of Sabattus.

1	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
2	Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11153-A is enacted to read:
3	§11153-A. Antler point restrictions
4	The commissioner shall establish an antler point restriction system no later than
5	January 15, 2016 to increase the number of older antlered deer in the State. The system
6	must limit the take of antlered deer to those with 3 or more one-inch tines along the main
7	beam of either or both antlers. The tine restriction does not apply to a junior hunter who
8	holds a valid junior hunting license and is hunting on youth deer hunting day established
9	pursuant to section 11402, subsection 4, paragraph C.
10	The commissioner shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
11	having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters no later than January 15.
12	2021 and every 5 years thereafter concerning the implementation of the antler point
13	restriction system and any observed changes in the antlered deer population of the State.
14	The commissioner shall adopt rules to implement, administer and enforce this
15	section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in
16	<u>Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.</u>
17	SUMMARY
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18	This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt an
19	antler point restriction system to increase the population of older antlered deer in the
20	State. It also directs the commissioner to adopt rules to implement and enforce the
21	system.