

Testimony in Opposition to L.D. 439-An Act to Preserve Maine's Sporting Heritage and Enhance Sporting Opportunities for Maine's Youth by Allowing Maine's Youth to Hunt on Sunday

John M. Glowa, Sr.

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Good afternoon. My name is John M. Glowa, Sr. I am testifying in opposition to this bill on my own behalf.

This bill is yet another attempt to get a foot in the Sunday hunting door. The title of this bill is rather comical because, if anything, this bill will decrease public support for hunting, decrease hunting opportunities, and result in the closure of thousands of acres that are presently open to hunting.

The sponsor of this bill simply doesn't get it. Maine people do not want hunting on Sunday. In addition to more killing of wildlife, it poses another day of risk to both hunters and the public. Maine people want to be able to enjoy and work on their properties without concern about being shot at least one day a week. The title of this bill is both misleading and false. It would also allow eighteen-year-olds-legal adults-to hunt on Sunday. I don't know if this was a deliberate attempt to mislead, but that is certainly the result. Even the summary of this bill falsely states that it applies to those under age eighteen.

Where is the fiscal note for this bill? Allowing hunting on Sunday will require more enforcement resources. It will require more biologist staff resources because of increased kills. Have the impacts on Maine wildlife been considered? Of course not. The resource should always have a higher priority than increasing the opportunities to kill it.

Please give this Sunday hunting bill a quick death just like all other Sunday hunting bills before it. Thank you.