



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF:

## **LD 777 "An Act to Standardize the Muzzle-loading Season Statewide"** THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

SPONSORED BY: Representative Mason of Lisbon

Good afternoon, Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts and fellow distinguished members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. I am Representative Rick Mason representing part of Lisbon and I am here today to introduce my bill **LD 777**, "An Act to Standardize the Muzzle-loading Season Statewide."

**LD 777** establishes that the muzzle-loading-only open season on deer must be the same in all areas of the State. Currently, differing regulations in the districts create an unfair situation for those who live in those areas. These districts were originally closed due to snowfall pushing deer into people's back yards where they would be easily harvested. The people in these districts should have the same hunting opportunities as others in our State. However, if snowfall is still a concern, the Commissioner should be allowed to open and close these districts at their discretion.

I ask the committee to report this bill as "ought to pass" and I thank you for your time.