



Maine Forest Products Council

The voice of Maine's forest economy

Testimony opposing LDs 1033, 1054 and 1212

April 21, 2021

Patrick Strauch, Executive Director

Companies represented on the MFPC Board

American Forest Mgmt.
Baskahegan Co.
BBC Lands LLC
Bradbury Forest Mgmt.
Columbia Forest Prod.
Cross Insurance
Family Forestry
Farm Credit East
Fontaine Inc.
H.C. Haynes
Huber Resources
Innovative Natural
Resource Solutions
J.D. Irving
Katahdin Forest Mgmt.
Key Bank
LandVest Inc.
Limington Lumber
Louisiana Pacific
Maibec Logging
ND Paper
Nicols Brothers
Pingree Associates
Pixelle Specialty Sol.
Pleasant River Lumber
Prentiss & Carlisle
ReEnergy
Richard Wing & Son
Robbins Lumber
Sappi North America
Southern Maine Forestry
Stead Timberlands
TD Bank
Timber Resource Group
Timberstate G.
Wadsworth Woodlands
Wagner Forest Mgt.
Weyerhaeuser

Senator Dill, Representative Landry and distinguished members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee, I am Patrick Strauch from Exeter, Maine, and the executive director of the Maine Forest Products Council (MFPC). I represent Maine's forest product industry, which represent more than \$8 billion in economic contribution to the state's economy, and more than 33,000 direct and indirect jobs.

Since 1961, the Maine Forest Products Council has represented our state's diverse forest products community, including logging contractors, sawmills, paper mills, biomass energy facilities, pellet manufacturers, furniture manufacturers, and the owners of more than eight million acres of commercial forestland in Maine.

I am speaking today in opposition to:

- [LD 1033](#) An Act To Allow Sunday Hunting on Private Property with the Written Permission of the Landowner.
- [LD 1054](#) An Act To Allow Hunting on Sundays with Written Consent on Private Property.
- [LD 1212](#) An Act To Allow Sunday Hunting North of U.S. Route 2 from the New Hampshire Border to Bangor, North of Route 9 from Bangor to the Canadian Border and within That Portion of the White Mountain National Forest inside the State.

Sunday hunting has been banned in Maine since 1883. As legislators have been told over and over, many Mainers would like one day of the week to enjoy the Maine outdoors without hunters nearby. Many hunters feel the same and even those who would enjoy hunting on Sunday do not want to risk unhappy landowners across the state posting their land.

Nor can we support setting up a patchwork of areas where Sunday hunting would be allowed with landowner permission. There is no difference between the rights of large and small landowners and we do not believe policies should create different classes of landowners.

Maine's landowners already provide many opportunities for recreation, especially in the north Maine woods. So we strongly support preserving the tradition of no hunting on Sunday, which has served Maine well for 138 years.

Passing any of these bills would change the relationship more dramatically between Maine landowners and hunters

We urge you to vote **Ought Not to Pass** on LDs 1003, 1054 and LD 1212.

Thank you.