

Testimony of Geri Vistein

Senator Dill, Representative Landry and committee members

My name is Geri Vistein and I am here today to express my lack of support for LD 1033: Having to do with allowing Hunting on Sunday.

If I recall, it was just two years ago that a bill similar to this came before the committee, attempting to make it legal to hunt on Sundays. Mainers from all backgrounds came out in force against it.

Mainers drew a line in the sand a long time ago, and have repeatedly done so regarding these attempts to take away their sense of peace and safety on just one day of the week, Sunday.

So here we are again. These bills are no different than those that came before. Reason being that our Maine people know that movement of hunting dogs and hunters from land with permission to land with no permission happens as easy as flipping a switch.

The only result of this bill if passed will cause increased conflict between our Maine people who value their Sundays to be out safely on the landscape, and those individuals who are not content with hunting just six days of the week.

In addition, it appears that this may very well be another sinister effort to kill our Maine Coyotes every day of the year. This is an insidious plan.

Enough is enough, and add any phrase you wish to hunting on Sunday, and it all comes down to lack of respect for the rights of fellow Mainers and increased disregard for all our wildlife.

I suggest that this committee not open this Pandora's box. Our legislators have consistently supported the will of our people who they represent. Let us hold on to that relationship of respect and trust.