

To whom it may concern,

My name is Tim Black, I am a Master Maine Guide and owner of 207 Outfitters. I have been a Registered Maine Guide since 2005 and obtained my Master classification in 2023.

I am writing this letter in support of LD 2194 *“An Act to Clarify When a Wounded Game Animal May Be Dispatched by an Authorized Licensed Guide,”*

Until recently it was my understanding that a registered Maine Guide could legally dispatch an animal that had been wounded by a client regardless of the time of day, I have since learned that is not the case and that it is only allowed after legal hunting hours have closed.

I know that ignorance of the law is no excuse for violation of the law but I believe that this law is misunderstood by a large number of the Maine Guide population. When this came to light, I spoke with many other Maine Guides and asked them when they could legally dispatch a wounded animal that a client had shot and they all believed that it could be done anytime.

There are numerous situations and reasons that a guide would have to dispatch an animal that had been wounded by a hunter and I trust that most guides who have done this in the past were doing so believing that they were acting within the law.

Some examples of where a guide may have to dispatch a wounded animal are if the client is physically unable to enter the woods to dispatch the animal due to medical issues or disabilities, the terrain and location of the animal are unsafe for a client to enter, the animal is not incapacitated and is showing aggressiveness, making it unsafe for the client to safely dispatch the animal.

By modifying the current law to allow Registered Maine Guides in certain situations to dispatch animals that have been wounded by their clients it would greatly benefit the client, guide and reduce undue suffering to the injured animal.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Tim Black

Tim Black  
Pittston  
LD 2194

Please see the attached letter in support of LD2194