

Anna Durand
Bar Harbor
LD 1438

Dear Chair Roberts, Ranking Member Mason, and the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against LD1438. As a year-round resident of Mount Desert Island who loves venison and hates Lyme disease and deer in my garden, the risk is not worth the benefit. The amount of private contiguous land outside the Park is small and almost all of it extends into neighborhoods. You would be responsible for the extremely likely accidents that will result if there is an open deer hunt on MDI.

Without any consultation with our local elected officials or governing bodies, this insult to Home Rule is confusing. This law does not address any problem that has been explained. Is it responding to the recent poaching arrests? If so, let those who live here decide. There is plenty of land all across the state for legal and fun hunting, it just doesn't make common sense to have it here.

We have local tools at our disposal to deal with deer, such as having a controlled harvest employing sharpshooters as has been done in so many other municipalities.

Thank you for considering ideas that you think might be good for MDI, but we're perfectly capable of choosing a deer hunt locally:

<https://legislature.maine.gov/legis/statutes/12/title12sec11402.html>

Thank you again for the opportunity to write to you, and thank you all for your work on behalf of Maine.