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Date: (Filing No. S-)

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 423, L.D. 1225, Bill, “An Act To Strengthen Maine's Wildlife Laws”

Amend the bill by inserting after the title the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the feeding of bear, moose and wild turkey is creating a public safety hazard and having a detrimental effect on the bear, moose and wild turkey populations; and

Whereas, the open season on hunting bear begins on August 26th, bait to hunt bear may be placed beginning July 27th and hunters may train dogs on bear beginning July 1st; and

Whereas, Maine guides rely on bear hunting for their individual livelihoods, and communities in rural regions of the State depend on bear hunting for economic activity to help sustain their local economies; and

Whereas, migratory game bird hunting begins in October; and

Whereas, the importation and possession of wildlife requires immediate study; and

Whereas, the 90-day period will not end before the first events begin; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,'

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 39 by striking out all of paragraph B (page 1, lines 6 and 7 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'B. Columbidae, ~~or pigeons,~~ including doves and ~~wild pigeons,~~ but not including rock doves, also known as rock pigeons;'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

2 **'Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§6, ¶G,** as amended by PL 2011, c. 253, §16, is
3 further amended to read:

4 G. Buying or selling moose, unlawfully hunting moose or unlawfully possessing
5 moose, in violation of section 11154, 11217, 11601, 11651-A, 11652, 12302-A,
6 12304-A, 12305 or 12403; ~~or~~

7 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§6, ¶H,** as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and
8 amended by c. 655, Pt. B, §99 and affected by §422, is further amended to read:

9 H. Buying or selling wild turkeys, unlawfully hunting wild turkeys, unlawfully
10 possessing wild turkeys or using unlawful methods to hunt wild turkeys, in violation
11 of section 11217, subsection 1; section 11751-A; section 11801; or section 12306,
12 subsection 1-; or

13 **Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§6, ¶I** is enacted to read:

14 I. Hunting bear over another person's bait without written permission of that person
15 in violation of section 11301, subsection 1-A.

16 **Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §11301, sub-§1-A** is enacted to read:

17 **1-A. Prohibition.** During the open season on hunting bear, a person may not within
18 50 yards of a bait site established by another person in accordance with section 11227
19 without the written permission of the person who established the bait site:

20 A. Hunt, trap, molest or harass bear or release a dog or dogs for the purpose of
21 hunting bear or training dogs to hunt bear; or

22 B. Disturb the bait site through the use of chemicals or take other action intended to
23 interfere with the hunting of bear at the bait site by the person who established the
24 bait site.

25 **Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §11302, sub-§2,** as amended by PL 2009, c. 390, §3, is further
26 amended to read:

27 **2. Nonresidents hunting with dogs.** A nonresident may not hunt bear with the use
28 of a dog or dogs unless that nonresident employs and hunts ~~with~~ in the presence of a
29 resident Maine guide. For purposes of this subsection, "in the presence of" means in
30 visual and voice contact without the use of visual or audio enhancement devices,
31 including but not limited to binoculars, citizen band radios or electronic communication
32 systems.

33 A. The total number of clients with a resident Maine guide may not be more than 5
34 in order to satisfy the requirements of this subsection.

35 This subsection does not apply to nonresidents who hold a valid Maine guide license.'

36 Amend the bill by inserting after section 6 the following:

37 **'Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §12051, sub-§2,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and
38 affected by c. 614, §9, is repealed.'

39 Amend the bill by adding before the summary the following:

