



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 1509

H.P. 1112

House of Representatives, April 26, 2011

**An Act To Enhance Enforcement of Fish and Game Laws By
Authorizing Maine To Enter into an Interstate Wildlife Violator
Compact**

Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered
printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative SARTY of Denmark.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CLARK of Millinocket, DAVIS of Sangerville, EBERLE of
South Portland, GUERIN of Glenburn, SHAW of Standish, WOOD of Sabattus, Senators:
MARTIN of Kennebec, TRAHAN of Lincoln.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10103, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and
3 affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

4 **2. Administration and enforcement.** Except as provided by statute, the
5 commissioner has general supervision of the administration and enforcement of the
6 inland fisheries and wildlife laws and has the responsibility for the management of all
7 inland fish and wildlife in the State. The commissioner has responsibility for
8 investigations carried out on behalf of the State in matters related to the status and needs
9 of any inland fisheries and wildlife species and is the representative of the State in
10 providing information associated with the status and needs of these natural resources to
11 municipalities, political subdivisions of the State and the Federal Government. The
12 commissioner is authorized to enter into an interstate wildlife violator compact to
13 promote compliance with the laws, regulations and rules that relate to the management of
14 wildlife resources in the respective member states and may adopt rules necessary to
15 implement certain provisions of the compact.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill provides the authority for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to
18 participate in an interstate wildlife violator compact, an agreement between member
19 states designed to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of conservation law
20 enforcement personnel and information, and to provide for the fair and impartial
21 treatment of wildlife violators within the member states. It also authorizes adoption of
22 rules to implement provisions of the compact.