



STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
1 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0001

Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

30 March 2018

The 128th Legislature of the State of Maine  
State House  
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 128th Legislature:

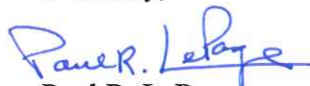
Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 1823, "An Act Regarding the Repeal of a Provision of Law Allowing Certain Nonresidents To Hunt Deer before the Open Season on Deer."

This bill amends the law to make permanent the temporary exception allowing non-residents to hunt on the day reserved for residents-only deer hunting on the Saturday prior to the open deer-hunting season. This has traditionally been a day reserved solely for residents of the State. In 2016, the legislature voted for a two-year exception to allow non-residents owning 25 or more acres of land open to hunting to participate in this residents-only hunting day.

I believe that allowing hunting on the Saturday prior to the open season is a privilege that should return to being an exclusive benefit for the residents of the State of Maine. I encourage anyone who wants to hunt on that day to declare residency. I do not favor an extension of this pilot program and believe the exception should sunset on September 15, 2018, as originally passed.

For this reason, I return LD 1823 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

  
Paul R. LePage  
Governor



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER