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H.P. 493

House of Representatives, March 3, 2021

An Act To Lower the Youth Hunting Age

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 1, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Presented by Representative WHITE of Mars Hill.
Cosponsored by Representatives: MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MASON of Lisbon, ORDWAY of Standish, Senators: President JACKSON of Aroostook, POULIOT of Kennebec, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11108-C, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2019, c. 639, §6, is further amended to read:

3. Junior hunter supervisor required. A hunter person who is at least 10 years of age and under 16 years of age may not hunt unless that person holds a junior hunting license and is in the presence of and under the effective control of a junior hunter supervisor, except that a person who is at least 14 years of age and under 16 years of age may hunt without being in the presence of or under the effective control of a junior hunter supervisor if that person has completed a hunter safety course established under section 10108 specific to the method of hunting authorized by the license. A hunter person who is under 10 years of age may not hunt unless that person holds a junior hunting license and is in the presence of and under the effective control of a junior hunter supervisor who remains at all times within 20 feet of that hunter.

SUMMARY

This bill allows a person who holds a junior hunting license, has completed a relevant hunter safety course and is at least 14 years of age to hunt without being accompanied by or under the direct supervision of a junior hunter supervisor.