

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE - HUNDRETH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1034

H. P. 748

House of Representatives, January 31, 1961

Referred to Committee on Industrial and Recreational Development. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Humphrey of Augusta.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-ONE

RESOLVE, Providing for Study of Maine's Water Recreational Needs.

Study of Maine's water recreational needs; appropriation for. Resolved: That the Legislative Research Committee shall conduct a survey of Maine's water recreational problems and needs, particularly as these problems and needs pertain to adequacy of existing public access to recreational waters, boat launching sites, water safety provisions for the public welfare and proper planning to insure development of these resources for the future. The results of such survey shall be submitted to the 101st Legislature in the form of a report which shall contain recommendations upon which to evaluate the needs of the State in this important area of recreational development to the end that necessary action may be taken in the public interest; and be it further

Resolved: That the sum of \$10,000 be appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund. This appropriation shall not lapse but shall remain a continuing carrying account until June 30, 1963.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Recreational boating has become America's number one outdoor sport and Maine is richly endowed with a great wealth of water recreational areas which, if properly developed, could add immeasurably to the economic advancement of the State. Effective planning and development of these water recreational areas is of vital necessity if Maine is to capitalize on this national trend toward recreational water use. Present development of the State's inland and coastal water areas for recreation, especially with regard to boating access sites and

public launching facilities, is inadequate to meet present and future needs. Expanding water recreational use brings with it the need for adequate safety measures to protect the public welfare, such measures including adequate buoying of dangerous navigational hazards, necessary safety regulations governing use of water recreation equipment, adequate provisions for financing and administering water safety enforcement. A comprehensive study of existing and future problems tending to retard development of Maine's vast water recreational potential is urgently needed in the interests of furthering the economic and social well-being of the State.