MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST	REGULAR SESSION
ONE HUNDRED A	ND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Legislative Document	No. 43
S.P. 143	In Senate, February 1, 198
Referred to the Committee concurrence and ordered printed	on Fisheries and Wildlife, sent down for d.
	JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Sena
Presented by Senator Usher of Cosponsors: Representative McEachern of Lincoln.	Cumberland. e Jacques of Waterville and Representative
STA	ATE OF MAINE
	YEAR OF OUR LORD NDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
	iscourage Violation of ldlife Laws.
Be it enacted by the I	People of the State of Maine a
12 MRSA §7054 is	enacted to read:
§7054. Antipoaching	orogram
	of Inland Fisheries and Wildlif
shall operate an a	ntipoaching program, commonl
called "Operation Garner.	me Thief," in the following man
1. Toll-free line	e. The department shall main
tain and man, du	ring normal working hours,
toll-free line in orde	er to take calls from citizen
concerning violation:	s of fish and wildlife regula
tions.	

- 2. Information. Citizens who call the number will not be required to give their names, but will be given a code number, and all information received will be recorded.
 - 3. Further investigation. The warden service, after examining each report, will determine if further investigation is necessary.
- 8 4. Reward system. The department may cooperate
 9 with a citizen group, which may arrange a reward system for informants.
- 11 5. State Police. The department may cooperate 12 with the State Police in order to carry on this pro-13 gram outside of regular Department of Inland Fish-14 eries and Wildlife hours.
- 15 <u>6. Maintain records. The department shall main-</u>
 16 <u>tain records of all calls and subsequent investiga-</u>
 17 tions for a period of 5 years.
- 7. Publicity. The department shall conduct the publicity necessary to make the program and the toll-free number known to the public.

21 STATEMENT OF FACT

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This bill authorizes the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to initiate an antipoaching campaign by setting up a toll-free line manned by a warden. It also authorizes the department to cooperate with a citizen's group which would pay rewards for information that leads to arrests.

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