MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 2284

H.P. 1632

House of Representatives, December 14, 1999

An Act to Maintain the Eel and Elver Management Fund and Regulate Permits for Eel Weirs.

Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 204. Received by the Clerk of the House on December 10, 1999. Referred to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town. Cosponsored by Representative CHICK of Lebanon.

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

- Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7153, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 536,
 Pt. B, §2, is amended to read:
- 4. Disposition of fees. All fees collected under this section accrue to the Eel and Elver Management Fund established in section 6505-D, except that \$42 accrues to the General Fund for each eel pot or eel weir permit issued under this section.

 This-subsection-is-repealed-on-January-1,-2001.
- Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7153, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 536, Pt. B, §2, is amended to read:
- 5. Five-year limited entry; eel weirs. The department may not issue an eel weir permit to a person unless that person possessed a valid eel weir permit for calendar year 1995. This subsection-is-repealed-en-January-1,-2001. The department shall adopt routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A regarding the issuance of eel weir permits. The number of weirs and the number of square miles of watersheds in this State fished by eel weirs may not exceed those permitted in calendar year 1995.

26 SUMMARY

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This bill will maintain the Eel and Elver Management Fund as well as the moratorium on permitting eel weirs that was enacted in 1996. This bill authorizes the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt routine technical rules regulating the issuance of eel weir permits.