

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 6/4/25

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 295, L.D. 441, "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Fish and Wildlife"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Allow the Investment of Money Deposited with the Treasurer of State for the Maine Deer Management Fund'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10264, 2nd ¶, as amended by PL 2023, c. 593, §1, is further amended to read:

Notwithstanding section 10801, subsection 4, \$2 of each deer registration fee collected under section 12301-A, subsection 3, paragraph C must be deposited in the fund and may be used to assist landowners with the prevention or management of landowner-deer conflicts. In addition, the revenue from each antlerless deer permit fee collected under section 11152, subsection 9, minus administrative costs, must be deposited in the fund and be used for predator control purposes or to acquire or manage deer habitat. The commissioner may accept and deposit into the fund monetary gifts, donations or other contributions from public or private sources for the purposes specified in this section. The fund must be held separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts. Money deposited with the Treasurer of State to the credit of the fund may be invested as provided by law. Income from these investments must be credited to the fund. The department shall report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters on the fund and its utilization.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, and changes the title. The amendment establishes that money deposited with the Treasurer of State to the credit of the Maine Deer Management Fund may be invested as provided by law and the income from these investments must be credited to the fund.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 441****LR 2221(02)****An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Fish and Wildlife**

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-478)
Committee: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Revenue				
General Fund	(\$100,000)	(\$100,000)	(\$100,000)	(\$100,000)
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill directs that interest earned on balances in the Maine Deer Management Fund within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife be retained in the fund. Under current law, the interest accrues to the General Fund. This change will reduce General Fund revenue and increase Other Special Revenue Funds revenue by a corresponding amount. Based on historical and projected fund balances, the annual impact is estimated to be approximately \$100,000 beginning in fiscal year 2025-26.