

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(Filing No. H-480)

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. 816, L.D. 1241, "An Act to Establish the Make Change for Wildlife Program to Support the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund"

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 2 and 3 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10253, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Make Change for Wildlife program. The Make Change for Wildlife program is established to encourage voluntary support for the fund from businesses that collect voluntary customer contributions at the point of sale. Businesses shall deposit contributions collected under this subsection with the Treasurer of State and designate those contributions for deposit in the fund. The Treasurer of State shall credit all contributions to the fund and all money generated pursuant to this subsection must be used only for the purposes described in subsection 1.

Sec. 3. Report. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall submit a report regarding the Make Change for Wildlife program, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 10253, subsection 6, including any suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than January 1, 2026. The committee may report out a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.'

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

SUMMARY

This amendment removes language from the bill that establishes a corporate income tax deduction. It also directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, no later than January 1, 2026, regarding the Make Change for Wildlife program established by the bill.

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 816, L.D. 1241

1 The report may include suggested legislation. The committee is authorized to report out a
2 bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

3 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

4 **(See attached)**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



Approved: 05/31/25 **LRL**

132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1241

LR 1991(02)

An Act to Establish the Make Change for Wildlife Program to Support the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

Committee: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

A (H-480)

Fiscal Note

Potential current biennium revenue increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill repeals the fee-based Wildlife Enthusiast's Conservation Appreciation, Recreation and Enjoyment (WECARE) program and establishes the voluntary Make Change for Wildlife program. The new program allows participating businesses to collect donations at the point of sale and remit those funds to the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. While the bill will eliminate the minor Other Special Revenue Funds revenue currently generated through WECARE fees, this reduction is anticipated to be offset by new revenues from voluntary contributions under the new program. The net revenue impact cannot be estimated at this time and will depend on the number of participating businesses and the volume of donations received.