

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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New Draft of : H. P. 748, L. D. 1034

ONE - HUNDRETH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1540

H. P. 1118

House of Representatives, April 12, 1961

Reported by Mrs. Kilroy from Committee on Industrial and Recreational Development. Printed under Joint Rules No. 10.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-ONE

RESOLVE, Providing for Publication of Maine's Water Recreational Facilities.

Publication of Maine's water recreational facilities; appropriation for. Resolved: That the Department of Economic Development shall collect and catalogue information pertaining to existing public access to recreational waters and boat launching sites. The information so obtained 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 Legislative Research Committee shall investigate various methods of determining the amount of gasoline tax paid to the State by users of noncommercial pleasure boats and report to the 101st Legislature such method as they deem appropriate to the end that the 101st Legislature can direct such funds be turned over to the General Fund should it so desire; and be it further

Resolved: That the sum of \$1500 be appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund for the use of the Department of Economic Development to accomplish the purpose set forth in Paragraph one hereof. 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 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.