MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 601

H. P. 452 House of Representatives, February 1, 1973
Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up
for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Greenlaw of Stonington.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Appropriating Funds for Replacement of Sea and Shore Enforcement - Research Vessels.

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

Replacement of vessels; appropriation. There is appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund the sum of \$250,000 to the Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries toward the replacement costs of 2 enforcement-research vessels. Sale of the "Explorer" and the "Guardian" is hereby authorized. Sale proceeds and any available department funds are to be combined with this appropriation and used to purchase 2 replacement vessels, one in the 45'-50' class and one in the 65'-85' class. Any unexpended balance shall not lapse but shall remain a continuous carrying account until June 30, 1975. The breakdown shall be as follows:

1973-1974

SEA AND SHORE FISHERIES, DEPARTMENT OF

Administration Capital Expenditures

\$250,000

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries has statutory responsibility to enforce all laws of this State relating to fishery resources and public safety as required under the Maine Boat Law, conserving marine life, and conducting scientific marine research. The present larger vessels which are used

for offshore enforcement-research duties are the 42' Explorer and the 63' Guardian. Both vessels are old—the Explorer was built in 1949 and the Guardian was built in 1957. Costs of operation and maintenance are high and they are not capable of efficiently meeting the current demands of patrol, public safety, and research activities. Replacement of these units will enable the department to meet their constantly increasing statutory responsibilities which are associated with the very important marine resources of Maine.