

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 765

H. P. 624

House of Representatives, March 8, 1977

On motion of Mr. MacEachern of Lincoln referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Dow of West Gardiner.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Remove Weight Restriction on Black Bass
During a Sanctioned Bass Tournament.**

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

12 MRSA § 2553-B is enacted to read:

§ 2553-B. One-day bass tournaments

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2553, there shall be no weight restrictions on the taking or catching of black bass by contestants during one-day bass tournaments sponsored by Maine bass clubs and approved by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife which are held within the State during open season for black bass in waters free of ice.

The commissioner shall promulgate all rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this section. These regulations shall provide that during the scheduled hours of any tournament conducted pursuant to this section, no contestant shall take or catch more than 5 black bass and all bass taken during these hours shall, if possible, be retained alive and, following the close of the scheduled tournament hours, be released into the body of water from which they were taken.

Any club seeking approval to conduct a tournament pursuant to this section shall make application to the commission in a manner and form to be designated by the commission. The application shall include the club's tournament rules and any amendments or changes thereto and a schedule of the dates, places and times of the proposed tournament.

The commissioner, following a determination that the club has complied with all rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this section, shall issue a permit to the applicant club authorizing the club to conduct the tournament. The commissioner may, in issuing a permit, require a club to comply with any specific restrictions or conditions as he shall deem necessary to effectuate the purpose of this section.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill would provide for the waiver of the weight limitation on black bass during sanctioned one-day black bass tournaments. The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife will be empowered to grant permits for these tournaments and to establish rules and regulations regarding the conduct of these tournaments.