

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-912)  
109TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1825, L.D. 1929, Bill, "AN ACT to Provide an Income Tax Checkoff for Voluntary Contributions to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife."

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

36 MRSA §5284 is enacted to read:

§5284. Voluntary contributions to fish and wildlife program

1. Findings and purpose. The Legislature finds that wildlife species which are endangered, threatened with extinction or not commonly pursued, killed or consumed either for sport or profit, referred to in this section as "nongame wildlife," have need of special protection and that it is in the public interest to preserve, protect, perpetuate and enhance nongame wildlife resources of this State through preservation of a satisfactory environment and an ecological balance. The Legislature specifically recognizes that such nongame wildlife includes protected wildlife, endangered and threatened wildlife, aquatic wildlife, specialized habitat wildlife, both terrestrial and aquatic types, and mollusks, crustaceans and other invertebrates under the jurisdiction of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. This section is enacted to provide a means by which such protection may be financed

through a voluntary check-off designation on state income tax return forms. The intent of the Legislature is that this program of the income tax check-off is supplemental to any funding and in no way is intended to take the place of the funding that would otherwise be appropriated for this purpose.

2. Procedure. Every individual, who is entitled to a refund under this part, may designate that any portion of the refund be paid to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the protection of nongame wildlife. Every individual who is not entitled to a refund under this part may add any amount to his tax liability to be paid to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the protection of nongame wildlife.

3. Contributions credited to Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The State Tax Assessor shall determine annually the total amount designated pursuant to this section and shall report this amount to the Treasurer of State, who shall credit this amount to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to be used solely for the purposes of preserving, protecting, perpetuating and enhancing nongame wildlife in this state.

4. Effective date. This section is effective for returns filed on or after January 1, 1981, and before January 1, 1984. This section is ~~repealed~~ repealed on January 1, 1984.

Statement of Fact

This amendment adds an effective date and dedicates any revenues received from the voluntary contributions for the purpose of preserving, protecting, perpetuating and enhancing nongame wildlife in this State.

Reported by the Committee on Taxation  
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