

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 916

H.P. 646

House of Representatives, March 5, 1985

Reference to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Paradis of Old Town.

Cosponsored by Representative Law of Dover-Foxcroft, Senator Pearson of Penobscot and Representative Ridley of Shapleigh.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Regulate Fishing Derbies.

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

12 MRSA §7155 is enacted to read:

§7155. Fishing derby and fishing tournament permits

1. Application. Persons wishing at any time to conduct any fishing derby or fishing tournament shall first make application for and obtain a permit from the commissioner. Bass club-sponsored, one-day bass tournaments in waters free of ice shall fall under the provisions of section 7154. The application for a permit shall include rules; requested dates, places and times; and the prize structure.

2. Rules. The commissioner shall promulgate all necessary rules relative to permits to insure that derbies and tournaments are conducted only at such times and places and in such a manner as is consist-

1 ent with the fisheries management objectives of the  
2 department. Such rules shall include:

3 A. Specifying the number of derbies or  
4 tournaments that may be conducted in a given body  
5 of water and the dates within which they may be  
6 conducted. These rules shall be reviewed period-  
7 ically; and

8 B. Fixing the maximum total value of prizes  
9 which may be awarded at each derby or tournament.

10 3. Issuance. The commissioner, following a de-  
11 termination that the person has complied with all  
12 rules promulgated pursuant to this section, may issue  
13 a permit to the applicant authorizing the conduct of  
14 the derby or tournament. Persons who have conducted  
15 derbies or tournaments in the requested body of water  
16 in the past which have conformed with all rules shall  
17 be given preference in the issuance of permits.

18 The fee for a permit shall be \$10.

19 STATEMENT OF FACT

20 This bill requires that a permit is necessary for  
21 the conduct of fishing derbies or tournaments and  
22 outlines rules for their conduct which the commis-  
23 sioner is required to promulgate.

24 Certain lakes have been subjected to considerable  
25 pressure on the fisheries resource as a result of the  
26 number of fishing derbies conducted on them, both ice  
27 fishing and open water, for the purpose of raising  
28 money for the sponsoring club or for a charitable  
29 cause. This bill will give the commissioner power  
30 to restrict and regulate such derbies according to  
31 the principles of sound fisheries management.

32 A \$10 fee will be required to obtain a permit, in  
33 order to cover the cost incurred by the department in  
34 administration of this program.

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