## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## (EMERGENCY) FIRST REGULAR SESSION

## ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1021

House of Representatives, March 30, 1987 Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed. EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk Presented by Representative ROLDE of York.

Cosponsored by Representatives JACQUES of Waterville, McGOWAN of Canaan and FOSTER of Ellsworth.

## STATE OF MAINE

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

1 2 3	AN ACT to Revitalize the Nongame Endangered Species and Wildlife Program.			
4 5 6	Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legis- lature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and			
7 8 9 10	Whereas, Maine's fisheries and wildlife resources contribute substantial and diverse benefits to the citizens of Maine and have significant recreational, educational, economic, ecological, scientific and aesthetic values; and			
12 13 14	Whereas, these wildlife and fisheries resources are renewable resources and directly contribute hundreds of millions of dollars annually to the economy			

of Maine and are essential to tourism and other forms

of economic growth; and

14 15

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1 Whereas, Maine has embarked upon a far-sighted 2 program to finance the management of endangered and 3 nongame wildlife resources in the form of a state in-4 come tax checkoff; and

Whereas, the traditional and current funding sources to wisely manage and perpetuate these resources should be strengthened and increased to meet an estimated \$70,000 a year shortage; and

Whereas, the future well-being of Maine's fish and wildlife resources and their invaluable and numerous contributions to the citizens of Maine depends upon adequate and ongoing funding for their management; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

20 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as 21 follows:

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7015, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 819, Pt. A, §17, is amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

The division shall fully evaluate the economic, recreational and ecological potential of the State's wildlife resources and shall determine the annual costs necessary to manage these resources and maximize the potential of these resources for the long-term benefit to the entire State. The division shall create an ongoing strategic program that will have as its objective, the management and promotion of these natural resources.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

<u>1987-88</u> <u>1988-89</u>

\$

1 2 3	INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE, DEPARTMENT OF		
4 5	Nongame Endangered Species and Wildlife Program		
6 7	Positions Personal Services	(2) \$70,000	(2) \$70,000
8	Division of Planning		
9 10 11 12	Position Personal Services All Other	(1/2) \$15,000 35,000	(1/2) \$15,000 5,000
13	Total	\$120,000	\$90,000
14 15 16	Emergency clause. In view of t in the preamble, this Act shall tak proved.	he emergen e effect w	cy cited hen ap-
17	STATEMENT OF FACT		
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	This bill recognized that fish and wildlife resources are a fundamental part of Maine citizens' heritage. They are a vital element in Maine's quality of life and are an integral factor in sustaining and further promoting tourism and other economic growth in the State.  This bill provides funding for positions in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to ensure a stable and healthy future for these resources and to build upon the State's ongoing commitment to their management.		
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1	This bill also requires that the Division of
2	Planning evaluate the economic, recreational and eco-
3	logical potential of the State's wildlife resources
4	and determine a stable funding mechanism to maximize
5	these benefits to the State over the long term.

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