

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
(New Draft of H.P. 320, L.D. 419)
(New Title)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1155

H.P. 862 House of Representatives, April 9, 1987
Reported by Representative WEYMOUTH from the Committee on
Fisheries and Wildlife and printed under Joint Rule 2.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Original bill sponsored by Representative DUFFY of
Bangor. Cosponsored by Representatives JACQUES of Waterville,
McGOWAN of Canaan, and Senator USHER of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Create a Youth Fisheries and
Wildlife Conservation Education
Program.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legis-
lature do not become effective until 90 days after
adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this pilot program should be in effect
from early July to late August; and

Whereas, it is imperative that our secondary stu-
dents learn about wildlife and wildlife management;
and

1 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,
2 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of
3 the Constitution of Maine and require the following
4 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-
5 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
6 therefore,

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

9 **Sec. 1. Pilot program.** The Department of Inland
10 Fisheries and Wildlife with support and assistance of
11 the Department of Conservation's SERVE Maine Program
12 shall conduct a pilot program for secondary high
13 school students to increase student awareness and un-
14 derstanding of fisheries and wildlife management
15 principles and practices.

16 Ten secondary school students shall be selected
17 annually to assist specific inland fisheries and
18 wildlife and conservation law enforcement projects
19 being undertaken by the Department of Inland Fisher-
20 ies and Wildlife. The program shall be for a 6-week
21 to 8-week period during the summer recess.

22 To be eligible, the students must be between the
23 ages of 15 and 18 years, enrolled in the freshman
24 through junior years in a secondary school in the
25 State and possess a Maine driver's license and be ca-
26 pable of providing their own transportation to the
27 site of the project which they are assigned, unless
28 public transportation is available.

29 **Sec. 2. Program announcement.** Secondary schools
30 shall be annually advised of the program and applica-
31 tion procedures by the department.

32 **Sec. 3. Application procedures.** Interested stu-
33 dents shall apply for acceptance into the program on
34 a form provided by the department or the SERVE Maine
35 Program and in the manner prescribed on the applica-
36 tion. The application shall be accompanied by a
37 one-page statement prepared by the applicant which
38 summarizes their particular interest in fisheries and
39 wildlife conservation and why they want to be ac-
40 cepted into the program.

1 **Sec. 4. Applicant selection.** The department
2 shall evaluate each application, the applicant's in-
3 terest in inland fisheries and wildlife and their
4 reasons for applying to the program. Ten applicants
5 shall be selected on the basis of the information
6 presented by each applicant to work on specific De-
7 partment of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife projects
8 which best match the interests and desires of the ap-
9 plicants and the department's ongoing work programs.
10 The legal residence of the selected applicants shall
11 be geographically distributed across the State. Stu-
12 dents shall not be selected from the same school in
13 succeeding years.

14 **Sec. 5. Program requirements.** At the completion
15 of the program, each student shall prepare a report
16 of the fisheries and wildlife conservation activities
17 they were involved with and the training and experi-
18 ence they gained from the program. The report shall
19 be presented to their science class or relevant group
20 and a copy sent to the Commissioner of Inland Fisher-
21 ies and Wildlife.

22 **Sec. 6. Compensation.** Each student shall be
23 covered by the SERVE Maine Program and compensated in
24 accordance with the provisions of that program with
25 money derived from the Department of Inland Fisheries
26 and Wildlife.

27 **Sec. 7. Allocation.** The following funds are al-
28 located from revenues dedicated to the Department of
29 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to carry out the pur-
30 poses of this Act.

31		<u>1987-88</u>	<u>1988-89</u>
32	<u>CONSERVATION, DEPARTMENT</u>		
33	<u>OF</u>		
34	Maine Conservation		
35	Corps Fund		
36	All Other	\$10,000	\$10,000

1 Provides funds for
2 the youth fisher-
3 ies and wildlife
4 conservation edu-
5 cation program.

6 Sec. 8. Annual Report. The department shall an-
7 nually report to the joint standing committee of the
8 Legislature having jurisdiction over fisheries and
9 wildlife on the merits and effectiveness of this pro-
10 gram.

11 Sec. 9. Repeal. This Act shall be repealed on
12 March 1, 1989.

13 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited
14 in the preamble, this bill shall take effect when ap-
15 proved.

16 STATEMENT OF FACT

17 This bill creates a pilot program which will pro-
18 vide a better understanding of the principles of game
19 management and conservation to secondary students.
20 It consists of a 6-week to 8-week internship with
21 wildlife biologists and personnel of the Department
22 of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for 10 students.

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