

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1991

S.P. 732

In Senate, January 7, 1988

Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator PERKINS of Hancock.

Cosponsored by Representative RUHLIN of Brewer, Senator ESTES of York, Representative BEGLEY of Waldoboro.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Concerning Marine Recreational
Fisheries.

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

6 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6051, as enacted by PL 1977, c.
7 661, §5, is amended to read:

8 §6051. General department activities

1 The department, under the direction of the
2 commissioner, may conduct or sponsor programs for research
3 and development of commercial, marine recreational and
4 anadromous fishery resources and other marine resources of
5 the State which may include biological, chemical,
6 technological, hydrological, processing, depuration,
7 marketing, financial, economic and promotional research
8 and development. The department may carry out these
9 programs within the department, in cooperation with other
10 state agencies, and federal, regional and local
11 governmental entities, or with private institutions or
12 persons.

13 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6052, sub-§4, ¶¶A and B, as
14 enacted by PL 1977, c. 661, §5, are amended to read:

15 A. Providing information on stock levels and
16 environments of commercially and recreationally
17 valuable marine and anadromous fish organisms;

18 B. Solving particular problems that relate to the
19 state's State's commercial, marine recreational and
20 anadromous fishing industry; and

21 STATEMENT OF FACT

22 Over the past 2 decades, striped bass, mackerel, tuna,
23 groundfish and rainbow smelts have become increasingly
24 important as marine recreational fishery resources. More
25 recently, the influx of large numbers of bluefish into
26 Maine coastal waters has generated a substantial
27 recreational fishery. Recent expansion of the federal
28 Dingle-Johnson Act of 1950 (Wallop-Breaux Aquatic Resource
29 Trust Fund) mandates that a portion of these federal funds
30 be spent on marine recreational fisheries' programs.
31 Coastal states throughout the nation are now making use of
32 these funds to develop and manage marine recreational
33 fisheries. This bill is intended to clarify the role of
34 the Department of Marine Resources with respect to marine
35 recreational and anadromous fisheries.

1 Section 1 of the bill authorizes the commissioner to
2 conduct or sponsor programs related to anadromous and
3 marine recreational fisheries. This section clarifies the
4 authority of the commissioner to make sure of federal
5 funds (Wallop-Breaux) which must be expended on marine
6 recreational fisheries.

7 Section 2 further clarifies the authority of the
8 department to engage in research programs involving
9 recreationally valuable marine and anadromous fish
10 organisms.

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