

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 2271

H.P. 1661 House of Representatives, February 16, 1988
Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.
Reference to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife
suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative DUFFY of Bangor.

Cosponsored by Representatives JACQUES of Waterville,
RUHLIN of Brewer, and Senator ERWIN of Oxford.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 AN ACT to Amend the Fisheries and Wildlife Work
2 Education Program.
3

4 Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the
5 Legislature do not become effective until 90 days
6 after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

7 Whereas, it is imperative that our secondary
8 students learn about wildlife and wildlife management;
9 and

1 Whereas, the youth fisheries and wildlife
2 conservation education program in the Department of
3 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is a successful program;
4 and

5 Whereas, there are numerous sporting clubs that
6 would like to sponsor additional students to
7 participate in the program at no cost to the State;
8 and

9 Whereas, the legislation allowing them to sponsor
10 students must be in effect before the department
11 selects students and begins planning for the coming
12 summer; and

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

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

21 **Sec. 1. P&SL 1987, c. 12, §1 is amended to read:**

22 **Sec. 1. Pilot program.** The Department of
23 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife with support and
24 assistance of the Department of Conservation's SERVE
25 Maine Program shall conduct a pilot program for
26 secondary high school students to increase student
27 awareness and understanding of fisheries and wildlife
28 management principles and practices.

29 Ten Up to 25 secondary school students shall be
30 selected annually to assist specific inland fisheries
31 and wildlife and conservation law enforcement projects
32 being undertaken by the Department of Inland Fisheries
33 and Wildlife. Ten students shall be funded by the
34 department each year and up to 15 students may be
35 sponsored by individual sporting organizations. The
36 program shall be for a 6-week to 8-week period during
37 the summer recess.

1 To be eligible, the students must be between the
2 ages of 15 and 18 years, enrolled in the freshman
3 through junior years in a secondary school in the
4 State and possess a Maine driver's license and be
5 capable of providing their own transportation to the
6 site of the project which they are assigned, unless
7 public transportation is available. In addition,
8 students sponsored by individual sporting groups may
9 be required to meet the requirements of those groups.

10 Sec. 2. P&SL 1987, c. 12, §3 is amended to read:

11 Sec. 3. Application procedures. Interested
12 students shall apply for acceptance into department
13 sponsorship in the program on a form provided by the
14 department or the SERVE Maine Program and in the
15 manner prescribed on the application. The application
16 shall be accompanied by a one-page statement prepared
17 by the applicant which summarizes their particular
18 interest in fisheries and wildlife conservation and
19 why they want to be accepted into the program.

20 Sec. 3. P&SL 1987, c. 12, §4 is amended to read:

21 Sec. 4. Applicant selection. The department
22 shall evaluate each application, the applicant's
23 interest in inland fisheries and wildlife and their
24 reasons for applying to the program. Ten applicants
25 shall be selected to be funded in the program by the
26 department on the basis of the information presented
27 by each applicant to work on specific Department of
28 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife projects which best
29 match the interests and desires of the applicants and
30 the department's ongoing work programs. The legal
31 residence of the selected applicants sponsored by
32 the department shall be geographically distributed
33 across the State. Students Department-sponsored
34 students shall not be selected from the same school in
35 succeeding years.

36 Sec. 4. P&SL 1987, c. 12, §4-A is enacted to
37 read:

1 fiscal year 1988-89. This revenue will be derived
2 from anticipated individual donations from sporting
3 organizations.

4 STATEMENT OF FACT

5 The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
6 has successfully developed a program to expose high
7 school students to the principles and theories behind
8 wildlife management. There are many sporting clubs in
9 the State that support the concept of this program.
10 This bill expands the youth fisheries and wildlife
11 conservation education program by allowing individual
12 sporting clubs and organizations to sponsor additional
13 students. It allows the department to increase the
14 size of the program by an additional 15 students at no
15 additional cost to the State.

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