

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1288

H.P. 922

House of Representatives, April 24, 1989

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

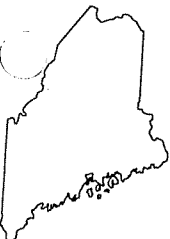
Presented by Representative RUHLIN of Brewer.

Cosponsored by Representative DUFFY of Bangor, Representative JACQUES of Waterville and Senator ERWIN of Oxford.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Protect Fishing Resources in Certain Ponds.



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

3 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7673-A is enacted to read:

5 §7673-A. Catch and release ponds

7 1. Designation by rule. The commissioner shall, pursuant
9 to section 7035, subsection 1, promulgate a rule designating
11 certain ponds in the State as open to catch and release fishing
only. In making these designations, the commissioner shall take
into consideration:

13 A. The accessibility of the pond to the public;

15 B. The ability of the pond to maintain its supply of fish
17 without stocking;

19 C. The historic prevalence of trout of at least trophy size
21 in the pond; and

23 D. The general quality of the fishing experience in the
25 pond.

27 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7674, sub-§2 is enacted to read:

29 2. Taking fish from a catch and release pond. A person is
31 guilty of taking fish from a catch and release pond if the person
33 takes but does not immediately release any fish from, or
35 possesses any dead fish taken from, any pond designated by the
commissioner as a catch and release pond, pursuant to section
7673-A.

37 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

39 This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and
41 Wildlife to designate certain ponds in the State as open to catch
and release fishing only. The ponds designated should be
accessible to the public, able to maintain their fish supply
without stocking, contain a supply of large trout and capable of
providing a quality fishing experience.