

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

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Legislative Document

No. 545

S.P. 218

In Senate, February 12, 1991

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GILL of Cumberland

Cosponsored by Representative AULT of Wayne and Representative MACOMBER of South Portland.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

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**An Act to Promote the Safety of Scuba Divers.**

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2 4. Violation. Any person who does not comply with any  
3 provision of this chapter commits a civil violation for which the  
4 following forfeiture may be adjudged:

5 A. For failing to display a flag while diving, a forfeiture  
6 of \$50; and

7 B. For operating a watercraft within 100 yards of a diver's  
8 down flag, a forfeiture of \$100.

10  
11  
12 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

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15 This bill requires that divers use a flag to mark the area  
16 in which diving occurs. It prohibits a watercraft operator from  
17 traveling within a 100-yard radius of the flag. The bill  
18 provides a forfeiture of \$50 for a person who does not display a  
19 flag while diving and a forfeiture of \$100 for an operator of a  
20 watercraft who travels within a 100-yard radius of the flag. The  
21 bill also enacts a new subsection in the Maine Revised Statutes,  
22 Title 12, section 7801 prohibiting the operation of a watercraft  
within 100 yards of a diver's flag.