

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1994

Legislative Document

No. 1662

H.P. 1235

House of Representatives, January 10, 1994

An Act to Study Eagle Mortality in Maine and Its Relationship to Human Health.

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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative FAIRCLOTH of Bangor.
Cosponsored by Representative JACQUES of Waterville, Senator LUTHER of Oxford and
Representatives: COLES of Harpswell, ROTONDI of Athens, Senators: HALL of Piscataquis,
O'DEA of Penobscot, PEARSON of Penobscot.

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

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3 **Sec. 1. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
4 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

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1994-95

**INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE,
DEPARTMENT OF**

Nongame Endangered Species

All Other \$80,000

Provides funds to help defray the analytical costs, special laboratories and operational expenses for continuance of a study of the level of contaminants found in baby eagles.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill provides state funding to continue and, it is believed, to complete the University of Maine's and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's study of levels of harmful contaminants in eagle eggs and young eagles. Preliminary results show that the State's eagles suffer from uniquely high rates of toxicity and the reproduction rate among the State's eagles lags significantly behind that of all other United States eagle nesting regions. Scientists agree that another year of study is required to provide appropriate baseline data. This study has previously been funded completely by federal money. Previous research has indicated that the levels of contaminants found in eagle eggs and young eagles are an indication of eagle mortality and are a sensitive monitor of human health hazards.

This document has not yet been reviewed to determine the need for cross-reference, stylistic and other technical amendments to conform existing law to current drafting standards.