

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 196

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H.P. 148

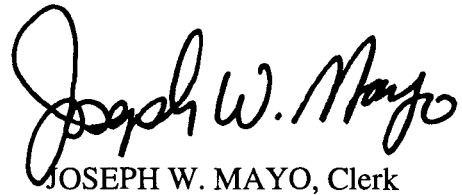
House of Representatives, January 20, 1995

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**An Act to Develop the Landowner Relations Program.**

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Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative REED of Falmouth.

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

2           **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7035, sub-§13**, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 441,  
4 §1, is repealed.

6           **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7035, sub-§15** is enacted to read:

8           **15. Landowner Relations Program.** The commissioner shall  
develop and implement the Landowner Relations Program, referred  
10 to in this section as the "program." This program is funded  
through proceeds of the Landowner Relations Fund established  
12 under section 7038.

14           A. The program must foster public use of private land for  
hunting, fishing and trapping; promote high standards of  
16 courtesy, respect and responsibility by hunters, anglers and  
trappers for private land; and prevent abuse of private  
18 lands by hunters, anglers and trappers.

20           B. The program must include a matching grants component  
open to local sporting organizations for their efforts to  
22 foster the purposes of this program. The commissioner must  
consider the matching grant component a priority in  
24 developing a budget for the program.

26           **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7038** is enacted to read:

28           **§7038. Landowner Relations Fund**

30           There is established the Landowner Relations Fund, referred  
to in this section as the "fund," which is subject to the  
32 following requirements:

34           **1. Revenues.** All proceeds from the sale of the landowner  
relations stamps required under section 7075-A must be deposited  
36 into the fund. The fund does not lapse and any interest earned  
must be credited to the fund. Funds not currently needed for the  
38 purposes of the Landowner Relations Program established under  
section 7035, subsection 15 may be invested by the Secretary of  
40 State as provided by law.

42           **2. Restrictions.** The fund is used only to further the  
purposes of the Landowner Relations Program.

44           **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §7075-A** is enacted to read:

46           **§7075-A. Landowner relations stamp**

48           In addition to the license requirements of this Part, a  
50 person who hunts, traps or fishes in the State must purchase a

landowner relations stamp. The fee for this stamp is \$5 for residents, \$10 for nonresidents and aliens.

Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §7406, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. Hunting without a landowner relations stamp. A person is guilty of hunting without a landowner relations stamp if that person:

A. Fails to keep the landowner relations stamp on that person's body while hunting or transporting animals or birds; or

B. Fails to exhibit that stamp to any warden, employee of the department, guide or landowner upon request.

Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §7432, sub-§10-A is enacted to read:

10-A. Trapping without a landowner relations stamp. A person is guilty of trapping without a landowner relations stamp if that person:

A. Fails to keep the landowner relations stamp on that person's body while trapping or transporting animals or birds; or

B. Fails to exhibit the stamp to any warden, employee of the department, guide or landowner upon request.

Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §7624-A is enacted to read:

§7624-A. Fishing without a landowner relations stamp. A person is guilty of fishing without a landowner relations stamp if that person:

A. Fails to keep the landowner relations stamp on that person's body while fishing or transporting wild fish; or

B. Fails to exhibit the stamp to any warden, employee of the department, guide or landowner upon request.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill establishes a funding mechanism for the Landowner Relations Program. It requires hunters, anglers and trappers to purchase a landowner relations stamp and to carry it on their persons while hunting, fishing or trapping. Proceeds from the sale of this stamp go to the newly created Landowner Relations Fund. The fund may be spent only to further the goals of the

2 program. The program includes a matching grants component for local sporting organizations.