

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 458

H.P. 338

House of Representatives, February 9, 1995

**An Act to Reduce the Number of Signatures Required to Open a Pond
for Fishing.**

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 7, 1995. Referred to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 14.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative JONES of Bar Harbor. (By Request)

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7557 is enacted to read:**

6 **§7557. Petition for opening a pond to fishing**

8 Notwithstanding Title 5, section 8055, whenever the
10 commissioner receives a petition to open any pond to fishing and
12 the petition is signed by 25 or more registered voters, the
14 department shall initiate rule-making proceedings to open the
16 pond to fishing within 60 days after receipt of the petition.
18 The petition must be verified and certified in the same manner
20 provided in Title 21-A, section 354, subsection 7 prior to its
22 presentation to the commissioner.

18 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

20 This bill requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and
22 Wildlife to initiate rule-making proceedings when it receives a
24 certified petition from 25 or more registered voters requesting
26 that a pond be opened to fishing. Currently, under the Maine
Administrative Procedure Act, an agency must initiate rule-making
proceedings within 60 days of receiving a petition signed by 150
registered voters.