



117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 750

S.P. 278

In Senate, March 7, 1995

Resolve, to Authorize a Study of Recreational Uses of the Saco River from the Atlantic Ocean to the New Hampshire Border.

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

Thay Th. Jours

MAY M. ROSS Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President BUTLAND of Cumberland. Cosponsored by Senators: CARPENTER of York, FERGUSON of Oxford, HANLEY of Oxford, HATHAWAY of York, LORD of York, PENDEXTER of Cumberland, Representatives: AIKMAN of Poland, CROSS of Dover-Foxcroft, JOYCE of Biddeford, LIBBY of Buxton, TRUE of Fryeburg, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton. Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission to Study the Recreational Uses of the Saco River from the Atlantic Ocean to the New Hampshire Border, referred to in this resolve as the "commission," is established; and be it further

Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That the commission 6 consists of the following 18 members: three members who must be municipal officers from towns along the Saco River; 2 members of 8 the Legislature, one of whom must be a Senator and one of whom 10 must be a member of the House of Representatives; 3 law enforcement officers, one of whom must be a municipal law enforcement officer, one of whom must be a county law enforcement 12 officer and one of whom must be a state law enforcement officer; 2 members from the public sector, one of whom must be active in 14fishing, canoeing, kayaking or similar outdoor activity; one 16 member must be a representative of an outfitting company; 2 members must be landowners who own land along the Saco River; 3 18 members must be members of the Saco River Recreation Council; and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Commissioner of Conservation who serve on the commission in an ex 20 officio capacity. Six members must appointed by the Governor, 5 members must be appointed by the President of the Senate and 5 22 members must be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and be it further 24

Sec. 3. Appointments; meetings; chair. Resolved: 26 That a]] appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the 28 effective date of this resolve. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council must be notified by appointing authorities once the selections have been made. When the appointment of all 30 members has been completed, the Chair of the Legislative Council 32 shall convene the first meeting of the commission no later than September 15, 1995. The commission shall select a chair from 34 among its members; and be it further

36 Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall establish a long-range plan for regulating the uses of the Saco River. In 38 conducting the study, the commission shall examine the following issues:

The feasibility of acquiring land for recreational
purposes along the Saco River;

44 2. The coordination of planning and management for recreational uses of the river;

3. The establishment of safety standards to ensure safe use 48 of the river;

50 4. Alternative uses of the river;

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52 5. Existing access to the river; and

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The best way to utilize law enforcement agencies in 2 6. maintaining safety on the river; and be it further 4 Sec. 5. Powers. Resolved: That in examining the issues in section 4, the commission may: б 1. Meet at convenient times and places within the State; 8 Hold informational sessions for discussions 10 2. with knowledgeable persons; 12 3. Conduct, tabulate and analyze the results of surveys of the public or affected persons and groups; 144. Procure and analyze relevant data; 16 Conduct legal research and prepare opinions on legal 18 5. questions within the scope of the study; and 20 6. Determine and summarize the legislative actions or governmental programs undertaken in other jurisdictions related 22 to issues within the scope of the study; and be it further 24 Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved: That the commission may 26 request staffing assistance from the Legislative Council; and be it further 28 Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That the commission shall submit 30 its report together with any necessary implementing legislation to the First Regular Session of the 118th Legislature no later than January 15, 1997. 32 34 **STATEMENT OF FACT** 36 38 This bill establishes the Commission to Study the Recreational Uses of the Saco River from the Atlantic Ocean to 40 the New Hampshire Border.