

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 757

H.P. 556

House of Representatives, March 7, 1995

**An Act to Appropriate Funds for the Churchill Dam and to Provide for
the Use of Controlled Releases of Water.**

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

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAILEY of Township 27, JACQUES of Waterville, KERR
of Old Orchard Beach, ROSEBUSH of East Millinocket, Senators: HALL of Piscataquis,
MICHAUD of Penobscot.

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

2

4 Sec. 1. Use of Churchill Dam as storage reservoir for power generation. The Department of Conservation, in designing and rebuilding the Churchill Dam, shall explore all opportunities to use controlled releases from the dam for downstream power generation by hydroelectric facilities on the St. John River. The department shall seek to enter into an agreement or agreements with New Brunswick Power for the use of controlled water releases from the dam. The Commissioner of Conservation shall report to the Legislature by January 1, 1996 on the actions the department has taken under this section and the nature of any agreements that have been negotiated or finalized. The commissioner shall also report on the projected yearly revenues to the State that any agreement would produce.

16

18 Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

20

1995-96

22 CONSERVATION, DEPARTMENT OF

24 Parks and Recreation - Bureau of

26 All Other \$1,400,000

28 Provides funds for rebuilding the Churchill
30 Dam in the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

32 STATEMENT OF FACT

34 This bill appropriates \$1,400,000 to the Department of Conservation to fund the rebuilding of the Churchill Dam on the Allagash Wilderness Waterway. This bill also requires the department to explore all opportunities to use controlled releases from the dam for downstream power generation. New Brunswick Power operates several dams on the St. John River below the Churchill Dam and has in prior years shown an interest in the use of Churchill Lake for water storage for release to downstream hydroelectric facilities. This bill requires the Commissioner of Conservation to report to the Legislature by January 1, 1996 on the actions the department has taken to enter into agreements with New Brunswick Power and the potential revenues associated with any of those agreements.