

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1112

H.P. 795

House of Representatives, March 30, 1995

An Act to Authorize a Multi-day Bass Tournament Permit.

Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative TYLER of Windham.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BERRY of Livermore, GATES of Rockport, JACQUES of Waterville, THOMPSON of Naples, TRUE of Fryeburg, WINSOR of Norway.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7154, as amended by PL 1993, c. 419, §15, is further amended to read:

§7154. Bass tournament permit

1. **Application.** Any bass club seeking approval to conduct a one-day bass tournament pursuant to this section may make application to the commissioner in a manner and form to be designated by the commissioner. The application shall must include the club's tournament rules, any amendments or changes to the rules and a schedule of the dates, places and times of the proposed tournament.

2. **Issuance.** The commissioner, following a determination that the club has complied with all rules ~~promulgated~~ adopted pursuant to this section, may issue a permit to the applicant club authorizing the club to conduct the tournament during open season for black bass in waters free of ice.

3. **Fee.** The fee for a permit to conduct a one-day bass tournament is \$20 for 1993, \$22 for 1994, \$23 for 1995 and \$24 for 1996 and every year thereafter.

The fee for a permit to conduct a bass tournament lasting more than one day is \$24 per day.

4. **Restrictions.** The commissioner shall ~~promulgate~~ adopt all rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, including, but not limited to:

A. Requiring that precautions be taken so that, if possible, all fish caught may be retained alive and, following the close of the tournament, be released into the body from which they were taken; and

B. Fixing the maximum total value of prizes ~~which that~~ may be awarded at each tournament; and

C. Limiting the length of a tournament to 3 days. A tournament lasting more the one day must be a regional or multistate tournament sanctioned by the applicant bass club.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7155, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 234, §2, is amended to read:

1. **Application.** ~~Persens~~ A person wishing at any time to conduct any fishing derby or fishing tournament shall first make application for and obtain a permit from the commissioner. Bass club-sponsored, ~~one-day~~ bass tournaments in waters free of ice

2 shall fall under the provisions of section 7154. The application
for a permit shall must include rules; requested dates, places
and times; and the prize structure.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This bill increases the allowable length of a bass
tournament from one to 3 days.