

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1132

H.P. 815

House of Representatives, April 4, 1995

An Act to Provide Increased Enforcement of Noise Pollution Laws.

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

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative AIKMAN of Poland.

Cosponsored by Representative: AULT of Wayne, Senator: HANLEY of Oxford.

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

2
4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7801, sub-§§15-A and 15-B** are enacted to read:

6 15-A. Operating a motorboat which exceeds noise limit. A
8 person is guilty, except as provided in subsection 27, paragraph
10 F, of operating a motorboat that exceeds the noise limit if the
12 person operates a motorboat that exceeds 78 decibels of sound
14 pressure at 50 feet on the "A" scale, as measured by the Society
16 of Automotive Engineers standards J-192.

18 15-B. Unlawfully modifying motorboat. A person is guilty,
20 except as provided in subsection 27, paragraph F, of unlawfully
22 modifying a motorboat if that person modifies any motorboat in a
24 manner that amplifies or otherwise increases total noise emission
26 above that emitted by the motorboat as originally constructed,
28 regardless of the date of manufacture.

30 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7801, sub-§27, ¶F** is enacted to read:

32 F. Notwithstanding subsections 15-A and 15-B, motorboats
34 that are operating in a regatta or race approved by the
36 commission under section 7797 may exceed the noise level for
38 a period not to exceed 48 hours immediately preceding and
 following such an authorized event.

STATEMENT OF FACT

30 This bill prohibits the operation of a motor boat that
32 exceeds the same noise limit currently established by law for
34 snowmobiles and airmobiles. The bill also prohibits modifying a
36 motorboat so that its noise emissions are louder than those
38 emitted by the motorboat as originally constructed. Exceptions
 are made for the 48-hour period before and after a race or
 regatta approved by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and
 Wildlife. Violation of the noise limits is a Class E crime by
 operation of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 7901.