

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 1243

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H.P. 890

House of Representatives, April 11, 1995

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### An Act to Reestablish the Great Pond Task Force.

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Reference to the Committee on Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative JACQUES of Waterville.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: DAVIDSON of Brunswick, FARNUM of South Berwick,  
GOULD of Greenville, JOSEPH of Waterville, MITCHELL of Vassalboro, MORRISON of  
Bangor, POULIOT of Lewiston, ROSEBUSH of East Millinocket, THOMPSON of Naples,  
TREAT of Gardiner, TYLER of Windham, WATSON of Farmingdale, Senators: BUSTIN of  
Kennebec, CAREY of Kennebec, STEVENS of Androscoggin.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§22-C is enacted to read:**

6 22-C. Great Pond Expenses 38 MRSA  
Environment Task Force Only §1842-A

8 This subsection is repealed December 31, 1998.

10 **Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §1842-A is enacted to read:**

12 **§1842-A. Great Pond Task Force**

14 There is established, pursuant to Title 5, section 12004-I,  
16 subsection 22-C, the Great Pond Task Force, referred to in this  
chapter as the "task force," to coordinate the State's great pond  
18 protection efforts.

20 1. Composition. The task force is composed of the State  
Planning Director, or the director's designee, who serves as  
22 chair; the Commissioner of Conservation, the Commissioner of  
Environmental Protection, the Commissioner of Transportation, the  
24 Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the  
Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and the  
26 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, or the  
commissioners' designees; the Director of the Division of Health  
28 Engineering within the Department of Human Services or the  
director's designee; the Director of the Natural Resources Center  
30 at the University of Maine or the director's designee; a nominee  
of the Maine Municipal Association appointed by the Governor; a  
32 nominee of the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine appointed by the  
Governor; a nominee of the Maine Forest Products Council  
34 appointed by the Governor; and 4 public members appointed by the  
Governor representing environmental concerns, recreational  
36 concerns, the concerns of landowners and the interests of water  
utilities.

38 2. Terms. Members who do not represent government agencies  
are appointed for 3-year terms, except initial terms are as  
40 follows: members representing the Maine Municipal Association,  
the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine and the Maine Forest Products  
42 Council and one public member are appointed for one-year terms;  
one public member is appointed for a 2-year term; and 2 public  
44 members are appointed for 3-year terms. A public member may not  
serve more than 2 consecutive 3-year terms.

46 3. Duties. The task force shall:

48 A. In developing the management strategy as directed under  
50 section 1843-A, solicit input from the public, municipal  
officers and interested organizations;

2           B. Develop guidelines for state rules governing surface  
4           uses of great ponds that avoid or minimize conflicts between  
            user groups;

6           C. Develop guidelines to establish a great pond  
8           classification system according to the intensity of  
10          development and use of the great pond, consistent with the  
            classification system used by the Maine Land Use Regulation  
            Commission;

12          D. Develop guidelines, recommended siting procedures and  
14          recommended standards for state construction of public  
16          access sites and recommend policies for siting permanent or  
            temporary public toilets at boat launching facilities funded  
            by the State;

18          E. Develop a plan for strengthening enforcement for  
20          violations occurring on and around great ponds through  
22          training, equipping and funding municipal enforcement. This  
24          plan must include a review of appropriate funding  
            mechanisms, including dedicated funds, and recommendations  
            for streamlining the enforcement process for violations  
            occurring on and around great ponds;

26          F. In updating the great ponds management strategy,  
28          reevaluate the department's phosphorus allocation method and  
            how it can be applied in the State;

30          G. Educate the public about activities detrimental to water  
32          quality in great ponds, including the use of lawn  
            fertilizers and pesticides;

34          H. Subject to available funding, develop a plan for phasing  
36          out substandard wastewater disposal systems around great  
            ponds pursuant to this chapter; and

38          I. Work with the Department of Human Services to study how  
40          to improve the removal of phosphorus in wastewater disposal  
            systems and mechanisms to accomplish this process.

42          4. Repeal. This section is repealed December 31, 1998.

44          Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §1843-A is enacted to read:

46          §1843-A. Great ponds management strategy

48                 The task force shall develop a state great ponds management  
50                 strategy in keeping with the goals of section 1841 by October 31,  
               1996. The strategy must be reviewed and updated at least every 5  
               years.

