MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1259

S.P. 463

In Senate, April 11, 1995

An Act to Provide Reimbursement from the General Fund for Search and Rescue Operations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

MAY M. ROSS Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HALL of Piscataquis.

Cosponsored by Senator: KIEFFER of Aroostook, Representatives: BAILEY of Township 27, CHICK of Lebanon, GREENLAW of Standish, JACQUES of Waterville, ROTONDI of Madison, TUFTS of Stockton Springs.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7035, sub-§4, ¶B-1 is enacted to read:

B-1. Expenses incurred by the department to search for or rescue a person who, at the time that person became lost or injured, was not licensed to engage in recreational hunting or fishing activities in the State must be paid from the General Fund. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters shall report out a bill to the first regular session of each Legislature to appropriate sufficient funds to the department to cover the full cost of those search and rescue efforts.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires that expenses incurred by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to search for or rescue a person who, at the time that person became lost or injured, was not licensed to engage in recreational hunting or fishing activities in the State must be paid from the General Fund. A similar statute, which required General Fund reimbursement for all Inland Fisheries and Wildlife search and rescue operations, was repealed by Public Law 1991, chapter 614.