

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 22

S.P. 24

In Senate, January 9, 1997

**An Act to Designate 2 Weekends When a Person May Fish without a License.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HALL of Piscataquis.

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

2  
4       Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7035, sub-§11-B is enacted to read:

6       11-B. Free fishing days. The commissioner shall designate  
8       2 weekends in each calendar year as "free fishing days." One  
10       weekend must be during ice fishing season and one weekend must be  
12       during open water fishing season. For purposes of this  
14       subsection, "weekend" means a consecutive Saturday and Sunday.  
16       Notwithstanding sections 7151 and 7371, it is lawful during any  
18       free fishing day established under this subsection for any person  
20       to fish without a license in inland waters, except that this  
22       subsection does not apply to any person whose license to fish is  
24       under suspension or revocation. All other provisions of chapters  
      701 to 721 relating to fishing apply during any free fishing day.

#### 18   SUMMARY

20       This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and  
22       Wildlife to designate 2 "free fishing weekends" each year; one  
24       during ice fishing season and one during open water fishing  
      season. Fishing without a license is permitted on the designated  
      weekends.