

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R & S.

L.D. 2579

2 DATE: 3/24/2000

(Filing No. S-590 )

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6 **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

8 Reported by:

10 Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary  
of the Senate.

12 **STATE OF MAINE**  
14 **SENATE**  
16 **119TH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

18 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 1011, L.D. 2579, Bill, "An  
20 Act to Provide an Angling Season for Atlantic Salmon"

22 Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting  
24 clause and before the emergency clause and inserting in its place  
the following:

26 'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §9908 is enacted to read:

28 **§9908. Atlantic salmon catch and release fly-fishing only**  
30 **season on Atlantic salmon restoration rivers**

32 A person who possesses a valid fishing license may angle for  
Atlantic salmon by hook and line with an unweighted salmon fly  
34 from May 1st to July 5th and from the Sunday before Labor Day to  
October 10th on rivers designated under this section as Atlantic  
36 salmon restoration rivers. The following rivers are designated  
as Atlantic salmon restoration rivers:

38 1. Penobscot River. The Penobscot River upstream of the  
40 Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain Bridge;

42 2. St. Croix River. The St. Croix River; and

44 3. Saco River. The Saco River.

46 Atlantic salmon taken under this section must be immediately  
released. Notwithstanding section 9902 or 9907, the commission

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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may not adopt any rule that places more restrictive seasons or methods of taking Atlantic salmon on Atlantic salmon restoration rivers than those established in this section.

**Sec. 2. Rules voided.** Any rule of the Atlantic Salmon Commission, including provisions of Chapter 1 of the commission's rules, that is contrary to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 9908 may not be enforced in contravention of that section.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

**FISCAL NOTE**

Changes in the length of the angling season for Atlantic salmon and the imposition of certain restrictions on where angling may occur will result in insignificant reductions of General Fund revenue from license fees.

This bill may also reduce prosecutions for Class D crimes. If the number of jail sentences is reduced, the savings to the counties are estimated to be \$83.36 per day per prisoner. The amount of any reduction of jail time and the resulting savings to the county jail system are expected to be insignificant.

The Judicial Department may realize some minor savings from reductions of workload, administrative costs and indigent defense costs associated with the minimal number of cases that will no longer be filed in the court system. Reductions in the collection of fines may decrease General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

**SUMMARY**

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment designates the Penobscot River upstream of the Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain Bridge connecting the cities of Bangor and Brewer, the St. Croix River and the Saco River as Atlantic salmon restoration rivers and establishes catch and release fly-fishing only seasons for Atlantic salmon on those rivers. The amendment prohibits the Atlantic Salmon Commission from adopting rules placing limits on seasons or methods of taking Atlantic salmon on those rivers that are more restrictive than those established in this amendment. Rules recently adopted by the Atlantic Salmon Commission that prohibit angling for Atlantic salmon statewide may not be enforced for the Penobscot River upstream of the Joshua Lawrence

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 1011, L.D. 2579

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Chamberlain Bridge, the St. Croix River and the Saco River to allow these catch and release fly-fishing only seasons to take effect on those rivers.

The amendment also adds a fiscal not to the bill.

# COMMITTEE AMENDMENT