

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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H.S.

L.D. 335

DATE: *May 2, 2001*

(Filing No. S-133)

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 109, L.D. 335, Bill, "An Act to Change the Snowmobile Registration Laws"

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 9 in the last blocked paragraph in the 3rd line from the end (page 1, line 36 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "registered to" the following: 'a federal or state entity,'

Further amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 9 in the last blocked paragraph in the last line (page 1, line 38 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "grooming." the following: 'Snowmobiles registered in either New Hampshire or Canada may be operated on any lake or pond that is both partly in the State and New Hampshire or Canada without being registered in the State.'

Further amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7824, sub-§11 is enacted to read:

11. Open snowmobile weekend. The commissioner may designate one weekend a year as an open snowmobile weekend when snowmobiles registered outside the State may be used in the State without being registered in the State. All other provisions of this chapter relating to snowmobiles apply during an open snowmobile weekend.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2		2001-02	2002-03
4	INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE, DEPARTMENT OF		
6	Savings Fund Program		
8	All Other	\$83,685	\$83,685
10	Appropriates funds to be used		
12	only to avoid future fee		
14	increases.		
16	DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE TOTAL	_____	_____
18		\$83,685	\$83,685
20	Sec. 4. Allocation. The following funds are allocated from Other Special Revenue funds to carry out the purposes of this Act.		
22		2001-02	2002-03
24	CONSERVATION, DEPARTMENT OF		
26	Off-road Recreational Vehicles Program		
28	All Other	\$280,166	\$280,166
30	Allocates additional funds		
32	for the Snowmobile Trail Fund.		
34	DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION TOTAL	_____	_____
36		\$280,166	\$280,166
38	INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE, DEPARTMENT OF		
40	Administrative Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife		
42	All Other	\$26,149	\$26,149
44	Allocates additional funds		
46	for the Snowmobile		
48	Enforcement Fund.		
50	DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE TOTAL	_____	_____
		\$26,149	\$26,149

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TOTAL ALLOCATIONS \$306,315 \$306,315'

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

FISCAL NOTE

	2001-02	2002-03
APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS		
General Fund	\$83,685	\$83,685
Other Funds	306,315	306,315
REVENUES		
General Fund	\$83,685	\$83,685
Other Funds	306,315	306,315

Requiring that all nonresidents who operate a snowmobile in Maine must register their snowmobile in Maine will increase annual General Fund revenue collected by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by \$83,685 beginning in fiscal year 2001-02. In order to meet the constitutional requirement that the total level of General Fund appropriations must at least be equal to the undedicated revenues collected by the department, the bill includes General Fund appropriations of \$83,685 in each of fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03 for the Savings Fund program within the department.

The same changes in snowmobile registration requirements will increase registration fee collections. Beginning in fiscal year 2001-02, the estimated increases of annual dedicated revenue collected by the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife will be \$280,166 and \$26,149, respectively. The bill includes additional Other Special Revenue allocations that are equivalent to the respective revenue increases.

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife will incur some minor additional costs to designate an open snowmobile weekend. These costs can be absorbed within the department's existing budgeted resources.

This bill may increase prosecutions for Class E crimes. If a jail sentence is imposed, the additional costs to the counties are estimated to be \$83.36 per day per prisoner. The number of prosecutions that may result in a jail sentence and the resulting costs to the county jail system are expected to be insignificant.

2 The additional workload and administrative costs associated
4 with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system
6 can be absorbed within the budgeted resources of the Judicial
Department. The collection of additional fines may increase
General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

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SUMMARY

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12 This amendment excludes federal and state snowmobiles and
grooming equipment from the registration requirement and
14 authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to
designate a weekend when snowmobiles registered out-of-state may
16 be operated in Maine. The amendment also allows snowmobiles
registered in New Hampshire or Canada to be operated on boundary
18 ponds and lakes without being registered in Maine. It also adds
an appropriation and allocation section and a fiscal note to the
bill.