

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2002

Legislative Document

No. 1962

H.P. 1465

House of Representatives, December 20, 2001

**An Act to Reduce Pollution of Androscoggin Lake by Repairing and
Altering the Existing State-owned Barrier on the Dead River in Leeds.**

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 17, 2001. Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative McKEE of Wayne.

Cosponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin and

Representatives: COWGER of Hallowell, DAIGLE of Arundel, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, TWOMEY of Biddeford, Senators: President BENNETT of Oxford, SAWYER of Penobscot.

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

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**CONCEPT DRAFT
SUMMARY**

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This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

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10 The purpose of this bill is to immediately reduce pollution
12 to Androscoggin Lake originating from the Androscoggin River and
14 thereby protect the lake's natural environment by directing the
16 Department of Environmental Protection to take over ownership of,
18 and immediate responsibility for the maintenance of, the
20 pollution barrier located on the Dead River in Leeds, Maine known
22 as the "Dead River Dam." The barrier is owned by the Department
24 of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. The bill will also
26 direct the Department of Environmental Protection to report to
28 the Legislature by January 1, 2003 on the sources of point source
and nonpoint source pollutants entering into the Androscoggin
River and then the Dead River and the Department of Environmental
Protection's proposals for eliminating or minimizing these
pollutant sources so as to protect Androscoggin Lake. A recently
commissioned Department of Environmental Protection engineering
analysis that is focused on recommending short-term and long-term
solutions to protect Androscoggin Lake from the influences of the
Androscoggin River is scheduled to be presented to the Department
of Environmental Protection in January 2002, and it is
anticipated that the results of this analysis will be made part
of this bill.

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32 The bill would also recommit up to \$20,000 in funds to the
34 Land and Water Resources Council's Lakes Heritage Trust Fund,
36 with the direction that these funds be made available to the
Department of Environmental Protection to make needed repairs to
the barrier and restore the barrier to its original design,
working in cooperation with local stakeholders. Without these
immediate and long-term actions by the State, the water quality
of Androscoggin Lake will continue to decline and remediation may
become very difficult and costly.

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