

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2002

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Legislative Document

No. 2180

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S.P. 813

In Senate, March 19, 2002

**An Act to Provide Funding for Conservation Education.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela L. Cahill".

PAMELA L. CAHILL  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Representative COLWELL of Gardiner and  
Senators: President BENNETT of Oxford, President Pro Tempore MICHAUD of Penobscot,  
Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, DUNLAP of Old Town, McGLOCKLIN of Embden,  
SCHNEIDER of Durham.

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

2                   Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7463-A, sub-§15 is enacted to read:

4                   15. Auction. The commissioner shall withdraw 10 permits  
6 from the number of moose permits to be issued annually to be set  
8 aside for auction by a tax-exempt national organization that  
10 raises tax-deductible contributions in support of a wide range of  
12 firearm-related, public-interest activities, including promoting  
14 firearms and hunting safety, enhancing the marksmanship skill of  
those participating in the shooting sports and educating the  
general public about firearms in their historic, technologic and  
artistic context.

16                   A. The number set aside must have the same ratio of  
18 resident to nonresident permits as the total number of  
permits issued has.

20                   B. The permits sold at auction may be purchased by any  
22 person regardless of residency status.

24                   C. One half of the proceeds generated from the auction of  
26 the permits must be returned by the tax-exempt organization  
under this subsection to the commissioner and deposited into  
a special nonlapsing account within the department to fund  
or expand youth conservation education programs.

28                   D. One half of the proceeds generated from the auction of  
30 the permits must be used by the tax-exempt organization to  
provide grants in support of its mission.

32  
34                   **SUMMARY**

36                   This bill provides funds to the Department of Inland  
38 Fisheries and Wildlife for youth conservation education programs  
through the mechanism of auctioning off 10 moose permits annually  
40 and ensuring that at least 1/2 of the proceeds from the auctions  
is returned to the department. The auctions would be conducted  
42 by a tax-exempt national organization that will use the remaining  
1/2 of the proceeds to support a wide range of firearm-related,  
44 public-interest activities, including promoting firearms and  
hunting safety, enhancing the marksmanship skill of those  
46 participating in the shooting sports and educating the general  
public about firearms in their historic, technologic and artistic  
context.