

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 468

H.P. 360

House of Representatives, February 4, 2003

An Act To Amend the Ice Fishing and Fishing Derby Laws

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7155, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 234,
4 §2, is amended to read:

6 **2. Rules.** The commissioner shall ~~promulgate~~ adopt all
8 necessary rules relative to permits to ~~insure~~ ensure that derbies
10 and tournaments are conducted only at such times and places and
in such a manner as is consistent with the fisheries management
objectives of the department. Such rules ~~shall~~ must include:

12 A. Specifying the number of derbies or tournaments that may
14 be conducted in a given body of water and the dates within
which they may be conducted. These rules ~~shall~~ must be
16 reviewed periodically; and

18 B. Fixing the maximum total value of prizes ~~which~~ that may
be awarded at each derby or tournament.

20 Notwithstanding any rule to the contrary, fishing derbies are
22 limited to one every other year in a given body of water.

24 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7571, first ¶**, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 420,
§1, is amended to read:

26 All inland waters of the State are closed to ice fishing
28 except those ~~which have been that are~~ opened to fishing through
the ice by rule of the commissioner. All inland waters that are
30 open to fishing through the ice are open from February 1st to
March 31st.

32 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §7572, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 493,
34 §45, is further amended to read:

36 **1. Two-line limit.** Unless otherwise provided by rule, a
person licensed to fish may fish through ice in the daytime with
38 not more than 5 2 lines set or otherwise, ~~which shall that must~~
be under that person's immediate supervision, in any waters ~~which~~
40 ~~have-been that are~~ opened to ice fishing by the commissioner.

42 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §7572, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 1993, c. 438,
§35, is further amended to read:

44 **2. Cusk.** Unless otherwise provided by rule, a person
46 licensed to fish may fish through the ice in the nighttime for
cusk in waters that have been opened pursuant to section 7571,
48 subsection 2, by using not more than 5 2 lines set or otherwise.
All lines set for cusk in the nighttime must be visited at least
50 once every hour by the person setting them.

