

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

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Legislative Document

No. 778

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H.P. 577

House of Representatives, February 18, 2003

### An Act To Create the Snowmobile Trail Fund Advisory Council

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CLARK of Millinocket.  
Cosponsored by Senator KNEELAND of Aroostook and  
Representatives: DUNLAP of Old Town, GOODWIN of Pembroke, JACKSON of Fort Kent,  
PINEAU of Jay, USHER of Westbrook, WATSON of Bath, WHEELER of Kittery, Senator:  
CARPENTER of York.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§3-B** is enacted to read:

6 3-B. Snowmobile Legislative 12 MRSA  
7 Conservation Trail Fund Per Diem §1893-B  
8 Advisory and Expenses  
9 Council for  
10 Nonsalaried  
11 or Nonpaid  
12 Public  
13 Members

14 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §1893-B** is enacted to read:

16 **§1893-B. Advisory council established**

18 1. Appointment and composition. The Snowmobile Trail Fund  
19 Advisory Council, referred to in this section as "the advisory  
20 council" and established by Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection  
21 3-B, consists of 9 members. The director or the director's  
22 designee serves as an ex officio member and may vote only to  
23 break a tie. The other 8 members are appointed by the  
24 commissioner as follows:

26 A. Three members who represent snowmobile clubs that are  
27 Snowmobile Trail Fund grantees;

28 B. Three members who represent municipal Snowmobile Trail  
29 Fund grantees; and

30 C. Two members who represent a statewide organization with  
31 an interest in snowmobiling.

32 2. Terms. Members of the advisory council serve for 3  
33 years and continue serving until a successor is duly appointed  
34 and qualified. A member may not serve more than 2 consecutive  
35 3-year terms. When a vacancy occurs, the commissioner shall  
36 fill the vacancy by appointing a member from the same category as  
37 the member who vacated the advisory council and that member  
38 continues to serve for the remainder of the term. An employee of  
39 the department may not serve as a member of the advisory council  
40 prior to the expiration of one year from the employee's last day  
41 of employment with the department. A legislator may not serve as  
42 a member of the advisory council.

43 3. Compensation. Advisory council members are entitled to  
44 expenses and legislative per diem as provided in Title 5,  
45 chapter 379.

2 4. Duties. The advisory council shall provide to the  
4 director advice and information on the management of the  
6 Snowmobile Trail Fund, including, but not limited to:

8 A. The annual establishment of reimbursement rates for  
10 snowmobile club trail grants, municipal snowmobile trail  
12 grants and capital equipment grants; and

14 B. The approval of expenses that are over \$15,000 for the  
16 snowmobile program pursuant to section 1893 and are not part  
18 of the regular grant program.

20 5. Chair; vice-chair. The advisory council shall, during  
22 its meeting in May, elect one of its appointed members as chair  
24 and one of its appointed members as vice-chair for one-year terms.

26 6. Meetings. The advisory council shall hold meetings in  
28 September and May. The advisory council may also meet at other  
30 times at the call of the chair or the director or the director's  
32 designee.

34 7. Public meetings; public comment. All meetings of the  
36 advisory council are open to the public and must be held in a  
38 location that is convenient for public access. Public comment  
40 must be accepted at meetings of the advisory council. Comments  
42 may be restricted to subjects before the advisory council at the  
meeting and consistent with any applicable requirements and  
limitations of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

8. Public notice. Public notice of all advisory council  
meetings must be published in a daily newspaper of general  
circulation in the geographic area where the meeting is scheduled  
at least 7 days and not more than 21 days prior to the meeting.  
That notice must include an agenda or statement of purpose of the  
meeting. That notice may be combined with any other notice of  
the meeting required by law.

## SUMMARY

This bill establishes the Snowmobile Trail Fund Advisory  
Council.