

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 963

H.P. 720

House of Representatives, February 25, 2003

**Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study the Department of
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Fish Stocking Procedures and
Management and the Enforcement of Fishing Laws in Northwestern
Aroostook County**

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative JACKSON of Fort Kent.
Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook and
Representative: SMITH of Van Buren, Senators: BRYANT of Oxford, KNEELAND of
Aroostook.

2 **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission
3 to Study the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Fish
4 Stocking Procedures and Management and the Enforcement of Fishing
5 Laws in Northwestern Aroostook County, referred to in this
6 resolve as "the commission," is established; and be it further

7 **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission
8 consists of 11 members appointed as follows:

9 1. One member of the Senate, appointed by the President of
10 the Senate;

11 2. One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by
12 the Speaker of the House;

13 3. The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or the
14 commissioner's designee;

15 4. One representative of the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine,
16 appointed by the Speaker of the House;

17 5. One biologist from either the Department of Inland
18 Fisheries and Wildlife or the University of Maine, appointed by
19 the Speaker of the House upon recommendation of the Commissioner
20 of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; and

21 6. Six members of the public, appointed by the Speaker of
22 the House of Representatives, one from each of the following
23 towns: Allagash, St. Francis, St. John, Fort Kent, Wallagrass
24 and Eagle Lake; and be it further

25 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the Senate member is the
26 Senate chair of the commission and the House of Representatives
27 member is the House chair of the commission; and be it further

28 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved:** That
29 all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the
30 effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall
31 notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all
32 appointments have been completed. Within 15 days after
33 appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the
34 first meeting of the commission; and be it further

35 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall examine
36 the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's fish stocking
37 procedures and related management and the enforcement of laws
38 pertaining to fishing in northwestern Aroostook County; and be it
39 further

2 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That, upon approval of the
Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission; and
4 be it further

6 **Sec. 7. Compensation. Resolved:** That the members of the
commission are not entitled to compensation for their attendance
8 at authorized meetings of the commission; and be it further

10 **Sec. 8. Meetings. Resolved:** That the commission may hold as
many meetings as necessary to conduct its work. At least 3 of
12 the meetings must be held in northwestern Aroostook County and
must be open to the public; and be it further

14 **Sec. 9. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 5,
16 2003, the commission shall submit a report that includes its
findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation,
18 for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland
Fisheries and Wildlife and the Legislative Council. The
20 commission is not authorized to introduce legislation. Following
receipt and review of the report, the Joint Standing Committee on
22 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may report out a bill to the Second
Regular Session of the 121st Legislature; and be it further

24 **Sec. 10. Extension. Resolved:** That, if the commission requires
26 a limited extension of time to complete its study and make its
report, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant
28 an extension; and be it further

30 **Sec. 11. Commission budget. Resolved:** That the chairs of the
commission, with assistance from the commission staff, shall
32 administer the commission's budget. Within 10 days after its
first meeting, the commission shall present a work plan and
34 proposed budget to the Legislative Council for its approval. The
commission may not incur expenses that would result in the
36 commission's exceeding its approved budget. Upon request from
the commission, the Executive Director of the Legislative Council
38 shall promptly provide the commission chairs and staff with a
status report on the commission budget, expenditures incurred and
40 paid and available funds.

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SUMMARY

46 This resolve establishes the Commission to Study the
Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Fish Stocking
48 Procedures and Management and the Enforcement of Fishing Laws in
Northwestern Aroostook County.