

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1040

H.P. 757

House of Representatives, February 26, 2003

**An Act To Ensure an Equitable Allocation of Federal Sport Fish
Restoration Funding between Saltwater and Freshwater Fisheries
Projects**

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach.
Cosponsored by Representative: BULL of Freeport.

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

2
4 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7773-A is enacted to read:

6 §7773-A. Sport fish restoration

8 1. Fishing survey. The department, in cooperation with the
10 Department of Marine Resources, shall annually conduct a survey
12 to determine the total number of people engaged in recreational
14 fishing in the inland waters and the total number of people
16 engaged in recreational fishing in the coastal waters.

18 2. Federal funds allocation. Using information received
20 under subsection 1, the department shall proportionately
22 distribute any funds received from the Federal Aid in Sport Fish
24 Restoration funds, 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 80.23,
26 between saltwater and freshwater fisheries projects.

28 3. Report. The department, in cooperation with the
30 Department of Marine Resources, shall annually by December 31st,
32 submit a report to the joint standing committee of the
34 Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and
36 wildlife matters and the joint standing committee of the
38 Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters on
40 the result of the survey under subsection 1 and on the
42 distribution of funds under subsection 2.

4. Repeal. This section is repealed January 1, 2009.

SUMMARY

 This bill requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and
Wildlife, in cooperation with the Department of Marine Resources,
to conduct an annual survey of people fishing in the inland and
coastal waters of the State and to use the survey results to
equitably distribute federal funds between saltwater and
freshwater fisheries projects. The bill also requires that a
report on the results of the survey and the distribution of the
federal grant funds be presented annually to the Joint Standing
Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Joint Standing
Committee on Marine Resources.