

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1055

H.P. 773

House of Representatives, March 4, 2003

An Act To Promote Enforcement Training for Bureau of Parks and Lands Staff

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor.
Cosponsored by Senator EDMONDS of Cumberland and
Representatives: COWGER of Hallowell, DUNLAP of Old Town, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor,
FISCHER of Presque Isle, HUTTON of Bowdoinham, PIOTTI of Unity, THOMPSON of
China, TWOMEY of Biddeford.

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

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**CONCEPT DRAFT
SUMMARY**

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This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

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10 This bill proposes to increase the level of enforcement
12 training for Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and
14 Lands rangers and staff as a means to improve visitor supervision
16 and increase protection of Maine's recreation areas and members
18 of the public that use them from illegal behavior. The bill
20 would require the bureau to annually train its field staff in law
22 enforcement practices sufficient to police public lands and issue
24 arrest warrants for infractions of state law. Training should
meet appropriate standards, and refresher training and continuing
education in enforcement should be provided annually to all
qualified staff. The bill would require an annual report to the
Legislature describing the type of training offered, including
the number of participants in the training program. The impact
of such training on the effectiveness of staff working with the
public on public lands should be assessed and included as part of
the report, along with recommendations for revisions in the
training program.