

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

---

Legislative Document

No. 1255

---

H.P. 929

House of Representatives, March 6, 2003

### An Act To Permit Sebago Lake Mooring Extensions

(EMERGENCY)

---

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CRESSEY of Baldwin.  
Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and  
Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, HONEY of Boothbay, MARLEY of Portland,  
MOORE of Standish, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland, Senators:  
GILMAN of Cumberland, TURNER of Cumberland.

2           **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not  
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted  
as emergencies; and

4  
6           **Whereas,** the boating season on Sebago Lake will commence  
before the 90-day period expires for the effective date of  
legislation passed in the First Regular Session of the 121st  
8 Legislature; and

10           **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts  
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of  
12 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately  
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and  
14 safety; now, therefore,

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

18                   **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7807** is enacted to read:

20           **§7807. Sebago Lake moorings**

22                   **1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the  
context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the  
24 following meanings.

26                   A. "Harbor master" means an enforcement official appointed  
under section 7803 or, in the absence of a municipal harbor  
28 master, an enforcement official appointed by the  
commissioner pursuant to chapter 705.

30                   B. "Lake" means Sebago Lake.

32                   C. "Mooring" has the same meaning as in Title 38, section  
34 480-B, subsection 5-A.

36                   D. "Normal high-water line" has the same meaning as in Title  
38 38, section 480-B, subsection 6.

40                   **2. Moorings.** A mooring may be located on Sebago Lake up to  
200 feet from the normal high-water line of the lake. A mooring  
42 must be removed from the lake by the same date that a harbor  
master requires boats to be removed from the lake. A mooring for  
44 a property owner with lakeside property may not be located in  
front of an adjoining property or hinder boaters or swimmers  
46 unless the location is necessary at the discretion of the harbor  
master.

48                   **3. Extended limit.** A mooring may be located up to 600 feet  
from the normal high-water line of the lake if the location is  
50 within a cove or in the mouth of a cove. A mooring located

2 farther than 200 feet from the normal high-water line of the lake  
3 must be illuminated from dusk to dawn during boating season. A  
4 harbor master may charge an extra fee for a mooring located  
5 between 200 feet and 600 feet from the normal high-water line of  
6 the lake. The fee charged pursuant to this subsection must be  
7 used to pay for the enforcement of this section and other duties  
8 required of the harbor master.

9  
10 4. Exceptions. The provisions of this section do not apply  
11 to those portions of Sebago Lake under the jurisdiction of the  
12 Portland Water District.

13  
14 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the  
15 preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

16

## SUMMARY

18

19 This bill provides for a limit of 200 feet from shore for  
20 the placement of a mooring on Sebago Lake and allows the  
21 placement of a mooring up to 600 feet from shore in a cove or  
22 mouth of a cove in Sebago Lake. A mooring placed beyond the  
23 200-foot limit may require an extra fee, which will be used for  
24 harbor master expenses, and must be illuminated from dusk to dawn  
25 during boating season. Moorings may not be placed in front of  
26 the property of an adjoining property owner and must be removed  
27 by the same date that the harbor master requires the removal of  
28 boats from the lake. This bill does not apply to those portions  
29 of Sebago Lake under the jurisdiction of the Portland Water  
30 District.