

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1456

H.P. 1064

House of Representatives, March 27, 2003

An Act To Establish the Landowners and Sportsmen Relations Advisory Board

Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered
printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town.
Cosponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford and
Representatives: HONEY of Boothbay, PINEAU of Jay, RICHARDSON of Greenville,
TOBIN of Dexter, WHEELER of Kittery, WOTTON of Littleton, Senators: KNEELAND of
Aroostook, MAYO of Sagadahoc.

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

4 Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§49-C is enacted to read:

6 49-C. Landowners \$50/Day 12 MRSA
7 Inland and Sports- §7038
8 Fisheries men Relations
9 and Wild- Advisory Board
10 life

12 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7038 is enacted to read:

14 **§7038. Advisory board established**

16 **1. Appointment and composition.** The Landowners and
17 Sportsmen Relations Advisory Board, referred to in this chapter
18 as "the advisory board" and established by Title 5, section
19 12004-I, subsection 49-C, consists of members as follows:

20 **A. Three ex officio members:**

22 (1) The commissioner or the commissioner's designee;

24 (2) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection or
25 the commissioner's designee; and

26 (3) The Commissioner of Conservation or the
27 commissioner's designee;

30 **B. Eight members, appointed by the Governor, representing**
31 **landowners:**

32 (1) One representative of a statewide small woodland
33 owners association;

34 (2) One representative of corporate landowners;

36 (3) One representative of a statewide forest products
37 organization;

38 (4) One representative of a statewide farmers
39 organization;

40 (5) One representative of a statewide small forest
41 industry organization;

42 (6) One representative of private landowners who is
43 not affiliated with any of the organizations or
44 associations in this subsection relating to farming,
45 forestry or corporate ownership;

2 (7) One representative of a statewide tree farm
3 organization; and

4 (8) One representative of land trust organizations; and

6 C. Nine members, appointed by the Governor, representing
7 land users:

10 (1) One representative of a statewide sportsmen's
11 organization;

12 (2) One representative of a statewide trapping
13 organization;

16 (3) One representative of a statewide snowmobile
17 organization;

18 (4) One representative of a statewide all-terrain
19 vehicle organization;

22 (5) One representative of a statewide turkey hunters
23 organization;

24 (6) One representative of a statewide bowhunters
25 organization;

28 (7) One representative of a northern Maine sportsmen's
29 organization;

30 (8) One representative of a southern Maine sportsmen's
31 organization; and

34 (9) One representative of a statewide environmental
35 organization.

36 D. No more than 2 nonvoting, ad hoc members may be
37 appointed by the commissioner upon recommendation of the
38 advisory board. These members must possess expertise or
39 knowledge of the advisory board's purpose and duties and may
40 not be affiliated with any organization or association
41 listed in this subsection.

44 2. Terms. Members of the advisory board, including the ad
45 hoc members, serve for 3 years, except that, initially, the first
46 3 landowner representative members appointed and the first 3 land
47 user representative members appointed serve 3 years; the next 3
48 landowner representative members appointed and the next 3 land
49 user representative members appointed serve 2 years; and the
50 remaining landowner and land use representative members appointed

2 serve for 1 year. The ad hoc members serve for 3 years. When a
4 vacancy occurs, the Governor shall fill the vacancy by appointing
6 a member from the same category as the member who vacated the
8 advisory board and that member continues to serve for the
10 remainder of the term.

12 3. Chair; election of board officers. The members of the
14 advisory board shall annually elect one of its members as chair
16 and one of its members as vice-chair.

18 4. Quorum. A majority of the advisory board members
20 representing landowners and a majority of the advisory board
22 members representing land users combined constitute a quorum.

24 5. Compensation. Members who are not employed by the
26 department are entitled to compensation as provided in Title 5,
28 chapter 379.

30 6. Staffing of advisory board. The department shall
32 provide administrative and staff support to the advisory board.

34 7. Meetings. The advisory board shall hold quarterly
36 meetings each year. Additional meetings may be held as necessary
38 to conduct the business of the advisory board.

40 8. Duties. The advisory board shall:

42 A. Propose changes to or advise the commissioner on
44 landowner-related laws, rules, department policies or other
46 significant landowner and land user issues;

48 B. Review landowner-related policies and procedures,
50 conduct studies, evaluate programs and make recommendations
to the commissioner;

C. Obtain public use of private and public land for
recreational activities by assisting with conflict
resolution as it pertains to public access issues on both
private and public lands and promote greater understanding
and cooperation between owners and users of these lands;

D. Review and make recommendations regarding programs
administered by other agencies. The commissioner shall
coordinate all reviews; and

E. Conduct an organizational review of the advisory board
every 5 years. This review must affirm to the department
that the advisory board has the membership required by
subsection 1 and that the advisory board is fulfilling its
duties. If the review determines that the advisory board

2 does not have the correct representational membership, a
3 subcommittee of the members of the advisory board must be
4 convened to recommend to the commissioner appropriate
5 changes. At any time, the advisory board may recommend to
6 the commissioner ways to improve the advisory board's
7 membership or function and the commissioner shall act upon
8 those recommendations.

10 SUMMARY

12 This bill establishes the Landowners and Sportsmen Relations
14 Advisory Board.