

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 303

H.P. 227

House of Representatives, January 19, 2005

An Act To Promote Fairness and Democracy in Wildlife Management

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative EDER of Portland.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10101**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A,
§2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

6 **§10101. Appointment**

8 The commissioner is appointed by the Governor, subject to
10 review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
jurisdiction over fisheries and wildlife matters and to
12 confirmation by the Legislature. The commissioner serves at the
pleasure of the Governor. ~~Any candidate for the office of
14 commissioner must have a record of demonstrated support for, and
an understanding of, the basics of modern wildlife and fisheries
management and have experience in hunting, fishing or trapping.~~

16 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10103, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414,
18 Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

20 **1. Appointment of deputy.** The commissioner shall appoint,
to serve at the commissioner's pleasure, the Deputy Commissioner
22 of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, ~~who must be qualified by
training and experience in fisheries and wildlife management or
24 conservation law enforcement.~~ Under the commissioner's direction,
the deputy commissioner assists in the administration of the
26 department. The deputy commissioner serves as the commissioner
if the commissioner is disabled or absent or if the office of the
28 commissioner becomes vacant. The commissioner may appoint an
appropriate administrative officer in the department to perform
30 the functions of the commissioner if both the commissioner and
deputy commissioner are disabled or absent.

32
34 **SUMMARY**

36 This bill removes the current statutory requirement that any
candidate for the office of Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and
38 Wildlife commissioner must have a record of demonstrated support
for, and an understanding, of the basics of modern wildlife and
40 fisheries management and have experience with hunting, fishing or
trapping. It also removes the requirement that anyone appointed
42 to serve as Deputy Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
be qualified by training and experience in fisheries and wildlife
44 management or conservation law enforcement.