

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 1370

H.P. 956

House of Representatives, March 17, 2005

An Act To Change the Membership of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative DUDLEY of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representative: EDER of Portland.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-G, sub-§20**, as amended by PL 2003, c.
414, Pt. B, §4 and affected by c. 614, §9, is further amended to
6 read:

8 **20.** Inland \$50/Day 12 MRSA
Inland Fisher- Fisheries and ~~§10151~~
ies and Wild- Wildlife §10151-A
10 life Advisory
Council

12 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10151**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A,
14 §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is repealed.

16 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §10151-A** is enacted to read:

18 **§10151-A. Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council**

20 The Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council, as
22 established by Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 20 and
referred to in this Part as "the advisory council," shall advise
24 the commissioner on matters pertaining to fisheries and wildlife.

26 **1. Membership.** The council consists of 11 members
appointed by the Governor as follows:

28 A. One member representing a hunting organization;

30 B. One member representing a fishing organization;

32 C. One member representing an alternative sportsman's
organization;

34 D. One member representing wildlife watchers;

36 E. One member representing the interests of hikers, canoers
38 and kayakers;

40 F. One member representing the interests of professional
guides;

42 G. One member representing the interests of wildlife
44 habitat conservation;

46 H. One member from a state animal protection organization;

48 I. One member from the Maine Warden Service;

50 J. One member representing the interests of trappers; and

2 K. One member representing the public who is not a
3 sportsman.

4 2. State member; staff. The commissioner or the
5 commissioner's designee serves as an ex officio nonvoting member
6 of the advisory council. The department shall provide necessary
7 staffing services to the advisory council.

8 3. Compensation. Members of the advisory council are
9 entitled to travel and meal expenses only.

10 4. Terms of office. Except for the commissioner or the
11 commissioner's designee, each member serves for a term of 3 years
12 or until the member's successor has qualified. Except for the
13 commissioner or the commissioner's designee, a member may not
14 serve more than 2 consecutive terms. In the case of a vacancy for
15 any reason, the Governor shall appoint a member representing the
16 same interest to fill the unexpired term.

17 5. Administration; meetings. The advisory council shall
18 elect one of its members as chair. The chair serves for a 2-year
19 period and may not serve as chair for consecutive 2-year periods.

20 The advisory council shall hold regular public meetings every
21 other month but may waive by majority vote a succeeding meeting.
22 The chair shall call special meetings of the advisory council
23 whenever requested in writing by 2 or more members. The advisory
24 council shall send notice and minutes of the meetings to the
25 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
26 over animal welfare matters.

27 6. Duties. The advisory council shall:

28 A. Review and advise the commissioner on proposed revisions
29 to wildlife laws and rules;

30 B. Assist the commissioner in the continuing implementation
31 and evaluation of the wildlife laws and rules;

32 C. Maintain communication with the public;

33 D. Establish long-range goals and objectives pertaining to
34 the interest of the State's wildlife;

35 E. Research options for increasing revenue to the
36 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; and

37

2 F. Advise the commissioner on other matters related to
3 wildlife issues, laws and rules.

4 **Sec. 4. Transition; members.** Members of the Inland Fisheries
5 and Wildlife Advisory Council in office on the effective date of
6 this Act continue in office for the remainder of their terms.
7 When the term of office of a member expires, that member's
8 successor is appointed pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes,
9 Title 12, section 10151-A, subsection 1.

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SUMMARY

14 This bill changes the way members of the Inland Fisheries
15 and Wildlife Advisory Council are selected.