

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 692

H.P. 523

House of Representatives, February 9, 2007

An Act To Eradicate Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species

Reference to the Committee on Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative CEBRA of Naples.

Cosponsored by Senator COURTNEY of York and

Representatives: AUSTIN of Gray, BARSTOW of Gorham, BERUBE of Lisbon, COTTA of China, CRESSEY of Cornish, CROSTHWAITE of Ellsworth, FARRINGTON of Gorham, FLOOD of Winthrop, HAMPER of Oxford, HOLMAN of Fayette, HOTHAM of Dixfield, JACKSON of Allagash, LANSLEY of Sabattus, LEWIN of Eliot, MILLETT of Waterford, MOORE of Standish, MUSE of Fryeburg, NASS of Acton, PIOTTI of Unity, PLUMMER of Windham, PRESCOTT of Topsham, ROBINSON of Raymond, SAVIELLO of Wilton, SYKES of Harrison, TARDY of Newport, TUTTLE of Sanford, VAUGHAN of Durham, WOODBURY of Yarmouth, Senators: BRYANT of Oxford, DIAMOND of Cumberland, DOW of Lincoln, HASTINGS of Oxford, NASS of York, SAVAGE of Knox, SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin.

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

2 **Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
3 allocations are made.

4 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEPARTMENT OF

5 Land and Water Quality 0248

6 Initiative: Appropriates funds on a one-time basis to provide competitive grants to
7 support public and private nonprofit efforts to eradicate invasive aquatic plants from the
8 State's freshwater lakes, rivers and streams. These funds may be carried forward until all
9 available money has been disbursed as grants.

| | | | |
|----|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 11 | GENERAL FUND | 2007-08 | 2008-09 |
| 12 | All Other | \$2,000,000 | \$0 |
| 13 | | | |
| 14 | GENERAL FUND TOTAL | <u>\$2,000,000</u> | <u>\$0</u> |

15 **Sec. 2. Grant administration.** The Department of Environmental Protection
16 shall administer the grants authorized in section 1 in accordance with guidelines
17 developed by the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance
18 Species. Grants may be awarded only to state and local government entities and
19 501(c)(3) organizations established and operating in the State.

20 SUMMARY

21 This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$2,000,000 in fiscal year
22 2007-08 to provide competitive grants to support public and private nonprofit efforts to
23 eradicate invasive aquatic plants from the State's freshwater lakes, rivers and streams.
24 The bill also requires that the Department of Environmental Protection administer the
25 grants in accordance with guidelines developed by the Interagency Task Force on
26 Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species. Grants may be awarded only to state and
27 local government entities and 501(c)(3) organizations established and operating in the
28 State.