

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2008

Legislative Document

No. 2288

H.P. 1650

House of Representatives, March 31, 2008

Resolve, To Create a Deer Predation Working Group

Reported by Representative JACKSON of Allagash for the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Resolve 2007, chapter 39.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

1 **Sec. 1. Deer predation working group. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of
2 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall establish a deer predation working group to review
3 and to recommend necessary revisions to the Department of Inland Fisheries and
4 Wildlife's predation control policy. The 8-member working group must include
5 representatives from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the University of
6 Maine System, an organization that represents the needs of Maine's forest products
7 community, an organization that represents trappers, an organization that represents
8 professional guides, an environmental organization, an organization that represents
9 sportsmen and an organization that represents small woodlot owners in the State; and be
10 it further

11 **Sec. 2. Duties. Resolved:** That the working group shall consider:

12 1. Methods of coyote control;

13 2. Tools and devices to be employed in predation control;

14 3. The protocol used by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to
15 determine when and where to deploy animal damage control agents;

16 4. The need and consequences of reducing the bear population in northern and
17 eastern Maine to allow the deer population to recover; and

18 5. The appropriate protocol for accomplishing bear reductions, if any, as determined
19 under subsection 4.

20 The policy and protocols developed by the working group must adequately consider
21 and minimize impacts to nontarget species, especially threatened and endangered species;
22 and be it further

23 **Sec. 3. Report. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and
24 Wildlife shall report the working group's findings and recommendations and any
25 recommended legislation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
26 jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters no later than January 5, 2009. That
27 joint standing committee may submit legislation related to the report to the First Regular
28 Session of the 124th Legislature.

29

SUMMARY

30 This resolve is a committee bill relating to the recommendations of the working
31 group created by Resolve 2007, chapter 39. The resolve directs the Commissioner of
32 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish an 8-member deer predation working group to
33 develop policies and protocols for the control of deer predation by coyotes and bear. The
34 working group is directed to report its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
35 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters
36 no later than January 5, 2009. The resolve authorizes the joint standing committee of the
37 Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters to submit
38 legislation relating to the report to the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



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LD 2288

LR 3595(01)

Resolve, To Create a Deer Predation Working Group

**Fiscal Note for Original Bill
Committee: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the University of Maine System and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife associated with serving on the working group can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.