

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

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Legislative Document

No. 562

H.P. 400

House of Representatives, February 17, 2009

### An Act To Support Maine State Parks

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Submitted by the Department of Conservation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.  
Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative McCABE of Skowhegan.  
Cosponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford and  
Representatives: CRAY of Palmyra, EDGECOMB of Caribou, FLOOD of Winthrop,  
GIFFORD of Lincoln, O'BRIEN of Lincolnville, PIEH of Bremen, PRATT of Eddington,  
Senator: NUTTING of Androscoggin.

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

2 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §1825, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

3 **5. State Parks Improvement Fund established; sale of merchandise.** The State  
4 Parks Improvement Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established within  
5 the bureau. The fund is nonlapsing. The bureau may sell within parks or historic sites  
6 general merchandise that is distinctive to the parks or historic sites or useful to the  
7 enjoyment of the parks or historic sites. Items that may be sold include, but are not  
8 limited to hats, coffee mugs, bumper stickers, t-shirts, tote bags and firewood.  
9 Merchandise sold by the bureau must be of good quality, appropriate for sale by the  
10 bureau and sold for a reasonable fee. The bureau also may rent items to be used for the  
11 enjoyment of the park or historic site, including, but not limited to, rowboats, canoes,  
12 kayaks and bicycles. To the extent the bureau needs to contract with vendors to obtain  
13 goods or services in order to develop, create or manufacture merchandise for sale or  
14 lease, the commissioner shall, to the maximum extent practicable, contract with vendors  
15 located in this State. All proceeds from the sale or lease of merchandise pursuant to this  
16 subsection must be deposited in the fund and used for the operation and maintenance of  
17 parks.

18 SUMMARY

19 This bill allows the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands to sell  
20 merchandise and rent equipment at state parks and historic sites and deposit the money  
21 received into the State Parks Improvement Fund, a dedicated account to be used for the  
22 operations and maintenance of state parks.