

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 4/1/14

L.D. 1744

(Filing No. H- 782)

Minority

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 1250, L.D. 1744, Bill, "An Act To Protect Maine Lakes"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, Maine's lakes are a critical and essential component of Maine's natural environment, wildlife and human life; and

Whereas, Maine's lakes generate in excess of \$3,400,000,000 in revenue each year, provide employment for 52,000 people and underpin our increasingly important tourism economy; and

Whereas, water quality in Maine's lakes, considered to have some of the highest water quality in the nation, has declined by as much as 20% since 1995 due to the introduction of phosphorus and other pollutants carried by eroded soils and storm water runoff from camp roads, driveways and lawns and from failing septic systems; and

Whereas, in many communities waterfront properties generate 60% to 70% of the tax base and any decline in water quality will cause property values to drop by 15% to 20% and will shift the tax burden to nonwaterfront homeowners; and

Whereas, scientific studies demonstrate that programs such as the LakeSmart program, which is a voluntary education and reward program for lakefront property owners who maintain their property in ways that protect lake water quality and property values, that keep phosphorus and other pollutants out of lakes are among the most cost-effective ways to protect lakes; and

Whereas, scientific analysis of the data gathered through the efforts of volunteers throughout the State who participate in the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program is critical to the understanding of the current water quality of our lakes; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 **Whereas,** the high-quality environmental training programs developed and offered
2 by the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee are critical to
3 ensuring that the best practices and techniques for water pollution control and water
4 quality protection are implemented by environmental professionals throughout the State;
5 and

6 **Whereas,** this legislation must take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period
7 in order to provide funding in fiscal year 2013-14 for the LakeSmart program, the Maine
8 Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee and the management and analysis
9 of data collected by the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program; and

10 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
11 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
12 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
13 therefore,

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

15 **Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
16 allocations are made.

17 **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEPARTMENT OF**
18 **Land and Water Quality 0248**

19 Initiative: Provides a one-time appropriation in fiscal year 2013-14 of \$40,000 for the
20 purpose of supporting the Maine Lakes Society in its implementation of the LakeSmart
21 program, \$20,000 for the purpose of managing and analyzing the data gathered by the
22 Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program and \$10,000 for the purpose of supporting
23 the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee in its development and
24 implementation of water pollution control, water quality protection and other
25 environmental training programs.

26	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
27	All Other	\$70,000	\$0
28			
29	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$70,000	\$0

30 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
31 legislation takes effect when approved.'

32 **SUMMARY**

33 This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on
34 Environment and Natural Resources, replaces the bill and adds an emergency preamble
35 and an emergency clause. It provides a one-time appropriation in fiscal year 2013-14 of
36 \$70,000 to the Department of Environmental Protection to provide \$40,000 to the Maine
37 Lakes Society in its implementation of the LakeSmart program, \$20,000 for the purpose
38 of managing and analyzing the data gathered by the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 1250, L.D. 1744

1 Program and \$10,000 to the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating
2 Committee in its development and implementation of water pollution control, water
3 quality protection and other environmental training programs.

4

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

5

(See attached)



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1744

LR 2438(03)

An Act To Protect Maine Lakes

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment
Committee: Environment and Natural Resources
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

B(H-782)

Fiscal Note

	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	Projections FY 2015-16	Projections FY 2016-17
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill provides a one-time General Fund appropriation in fiscal year 2013-14 of \$70,000 to support the Maine Lakes Society in implementing the LakeSmart program, analyzing data gathered by the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program and supporting the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee in its development of environmental training programs.