

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 157

H.P. 115

House of Representatives, January 27, 2015

**An Act To Create an Advisory Committee To Review and Make
Recommendations Regarding Hunting and Fishing Laws**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative POULIOT of Augusta.
Cosponsored by Senator DUTREMBLE of York and
Representatives: COREY of Windham, CRAFTS of Lisbon, HILLIARD of Belgrade, SHAW
of Standish, Senator: SAVIELLO of Franklin.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§49-D** is enacted to read:

3 **49-D.**

4 <u>Inland Fisheries</u>	<u>Hunting and Fishing</u>	<u>Not Authorized</u>	<u>12 MRSA §10158</u>
5 <u>and Wildlife</u>	<u>Law Review</u>		
6	<u>Advisory Committee</u>		

7 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10158** is enacted to read:

8 **§10158. Hunting and Fishing Law Review Advisory Committee**

9 **1. Appointment and composition.** The Hunting and Fishing Law Review Advisory
10 Committee, referred to in this section as "the advisory committee" and established by
11 Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 49-D, consists of the following 14 members:

12 A. A member of the Senate who sits on the joint standing committee of the
13 Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters, appointed
14 by the President of the Senate;

15 B. A member of the House of Representatives who sits on the joint standing
16 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife
17 matters, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

18 C. The deputy commissioner or the deputy commissioner's designee; and

19 D. Eleven members appointed by the commissioner:

20 (1) Two members of the advisory council;

21 (2) An active game warden;

22 (3) A member of the board or staff of a statewide organization of sportsmen;

23 (4) A member of the board or staff of a statewide association of professional
24 guides;

25 (5) A member of the board or staff of a statewide association of owners of
26 sporting camps;

27 (6) A member of the board or staff of a state chapter of a national organization
28 dedicated to bird conservation; and

29 (7) Four members of fish and game clubs or associations located in the State.

30 **2. Chair and officers.** The advisory committee from among its members shall elect
31 a chair, who shall preside over the advisory committee and set advisory committee
32 meeting dates and times, and a secretary, who shall record the meetings and all
33 recommendations of the advisory committee.

34 **3. Term; vacancy.** Except for the deputy commissioner or the deputy
35 commissioner's designee, members of the advisory committee serve for 2 years. When a

1 vacancy occurs, except for the deputy commissioner or the deputy commissioner's
2 designee, a new member must be appointed from the same category pursuant to
3 subsection 1 as the member who vacated the advisory committee, and that new member
4 continues to serve for the remainder of the term.

5 **4. Staffing.** The department shall provide administrative and staff support to the
6 advisory committee.

7 **5. Duties.** The advisory committee shall:

8 A. Review inland fisheries and wildlife laws and rules and make recommendations
9 to the commissioner regarding necessary new laws or rules or changes necessary to
10 simplify, clarify or eliminate confusing, outdated or unnecessary laws or rules; and

11 B. Conduct an annual survey of licensees and permittees under subpart 4 on various
12 inland fisheries and wildlife issues in the State as determined by the advisory
13 committee.

14 **Sec. 3. Staggered terms.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12,
15 section 10158, subsection 3, of the 11 initial members appointed to the Hunting and
16 Fishing Law Review Advisory Committee by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and
17 Wildlife, the commissioner shall designate 7 appointees to serve one-year terms.

18 SUMMARY

19 This bill creates the Hunting and Fishing Law Review Advisory Committee under the
20 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to review inland fisheries and wildlife laws
21 and rules and make recommendations to the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and
22 Wildlife regarding any necessary changes and conduct an annual survey of holders of
23 fishing and hunting licenses and permits on various inland fisheries and wildlife issues in
24 the State.