

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 3/28/19

L.D. 559
(Filing No. H- 48)

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 403, L.D. 559, Bill, "An Act To Restore Regular Mapping of Eelgrass Beds in the State"

Amend the bill in section 1 in section 1805 by striking out all of subsections 1 and 2 and inserting the following:

1. Eelgrass Mapping Fund. The Eelgrass Mapping Fund is created within the department as a nonlapsing dedicated fund to support the establishment and administration of the eelgrass mapping program required under this section. The fund may accept revenue from grants, bequests, gifts or contributions from any source, public or private.

2. Mapping schedule. The mapping of eelgrass beds required under this section must be conducted in accordance with the following schedule.

A. No later than November 1, 2020, mapping must be completed for that portion of the coast from St. George to Brooklin and must be updated every 5 years thereafter.

B. No later than November 1, 2021, mapping must be completed for that portion of the coast from Brooklin to Jonesport and must be updated every 5 years thereafter.

C. No later than November 1, 2022, mapping must be completed for that portion of the coast from Jonesport to Calais and must be updated every 5 years thereafter.

D. No later than November 1, 2023, mapping must be completed for that portion of the coast from Kittery to Phippsburg and must be updated every 5 years thereafter.

E. No later than November 1, 2024, mapping must be completed for that portion of the coast from Phippsburg to St. George and must be updated every 5 years thereafter.'

Amend the bill by adding after section 1 the following:

'Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEPARTMENT OF

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 **Eelgrass Mapping Fund N302**

2 Initiative: Provides an allocation to accept grants, bequests, gifts or contributions from
 3 any source, public or private, to support the administration of the eelgrass mapping
 4 program.

5	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2019-20	2020-21
6	All Other	\$500	\$500
7			
8	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$500</u>

9 **Water Quality 0248**

10 Initiative: Provides appropriations for one Biologist II position and one Environmental
 11 Technician position and All Other costs.

12	GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
13	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	2,000	2,000
14	Personal Services	\$107,250	\$147,290
15	All Other	\$6,050	\$6,050
16			
17	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$113,300</u>	<u>\$153,340</u>

18 **Water Quality 0248**

19 Initiative: Provides appropriations for aerial imagery acquisition and processing and
 20 annual equipment maintenance and replacement.

21	GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
22	All Other	\$124,400	\$117,500
23			
24	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$124,400</u>	<u>\$117,500</u>

25	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,		
26	DEPARTMENT OF		
27	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2019-20	2020-21
28			
29	GENERAL FUND	\$237,700	\$270,840
30	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$500	\$500
31			
32	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$238,200</u>	<u>\$271,340</u>
33			
34			

1 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
2 section number to read consecutively.

3

SUMMARY

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This amendment creates the Eelgrass Mapping Fund to support the establishment and
5 administration of the eelgrass mapping program required under the bill and authorizes the
6 fund to accept grants, bequests, gifts or contributions from any source, public or private.
7 The amendment also revises the mapping schedule for the mapping of eelgrass beds as
8 proposed in the bill and adds an appropriations and allocations section.

9

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

10

(See attached)



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 559

LR 905(02)

An Act To Restore Regular Mapping of Eelgrass Beds in the State

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-48)
 Committee: Environment and Natural Resources

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	Projections FY 2021-22	Projections FY 2022-23
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$237,700	\$270,840	\$220,259	\$246,310
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$237,700	\$270,840	\$220,259	\$246,310
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), in consultation with the Department of Marine Resources (DMR), to establish and implement an eelgrass mapping program and publicly disseminate data and mapping information.

The bill includes General Fund appropriations to the Bureau of Water Quality within the DEP of \$113,300 in fiscal year 2019-20 and \$153,340 in fiscal year 2020-21 for one Biologist II position and one Environmental Technician position and associated All Other costs and \$124,400 in fiscal year 2019-20 and \$117,500 in fiscal year 2020-21 to collect aerial imagery, process maps, disseminate findings and maintain or replace equipment. The bill also includes ongoing Other Special Revenue Funds allocations of \$500 starting in fiscal year 2019-20 to establish the Eelgrass Mapping Fund to allow acceptance of grants, bequests, gifts or contributions to support the program from any source, public or private.

Any additional costs to the DMR to consult with the DEP are anticipated to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.