

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5/28/19

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INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1141, L.D. 1579, Bill, "An Act To Allow Municipalities To Stock Ponds in Their Areas with Fish"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Create a Limited Fish Stocking Permit'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12510, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Limited permit. The commissioner may issue a written limited permit to a local government under this subsection. A limited permit:

A. Allows the local government to introduce fish only into a great pond that:

(1) Is within the jurisdiction of the local government; and

(2) Was previously stocked by the department and in which stocking was suspended prior to January 1, 2019 and has not been resumed by the department due to inadequate public access;

B. Allows the introduction of only:

(1) The same species of fish that was stocked at the time the department suspended stocking; and

(2) Fish obtained by the local government at its own expense from an in-state commercial facility that meets testing and health guidelines approved by the department; and

C. May be issued only if the local government identifies public access to the great pond that:

(1) Is at least suitable for the hand carrying of boats to the water;

(2) Includes a parking area; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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(3) Has been marked with signage adequate to ensure public awareness of the public access.

For purposes of this subsection, "local government" means a municipality or, in the unorganized territory, a county.'

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

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue a limited permit to a local government. A limited permit allows a local government to introduce fish only into a great pond within the jurisdiction of the local government that was previously stocked by the department and in which stocking was suspended prior to January 1, 2019 and has not been resumed by the department due to inadequate public access. The permit allows the introduction of only the same species of fish that was stocked at the time the department suspended stocking. The permit allows only the introduction of fish obtained by the local government at its own expense from an in-state commercial facility that meets testing and health guidelines approved by the department. The permit may be issued only if the local government identifies public access to the great pond that is at least suitable for the hand carrying of boats to the water, includes a parking area and has been marked with signage adequate to ensure public awareness of the public access. "Local government" is defined as a municipality or, in the unorganized territory, a county.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



Approved: 05/24/19 *MCC*

129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1579

LR 2433(02)

An Act To Allow Municipalities To Stock Ponds in Their Areas with Fish

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment A

Committee: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

(H-375)

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue a limited fish stocking permit to a local government that will allow them to introduce fish into a great pond within their jurisdiction providing specific requirements have been met are anticipated to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.