

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
130TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1359, L.D. 1826, "An Act To Create a Subcommittee of the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species To Recommend Ways To Reduce the Threat of Further Infestations"

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

**'An Act To Require Reporting by the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species Regarding Recommendations To Reduce the Threat of Further Infestations'**

Amend the bill by striking out all of the emergency preamble.

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

**'Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1871, first ¶,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 300, §16, is further amended to read:

The Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species, as established by Title 5, section 12004-D, subsection 6 and referred to in this chapter as "the task force," is established to advise the department, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Marine Resources and the Legislature on matters pertaining to research, control and eradication of invasive aquatic plants and nuisance species.

**Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §1871, sub-§4,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 300, §17, is further amended to read:

**4. Duties.** The task force ~~may make~~ shall develop findings and recommendations to ~~the department, including any suggested legislation, on any of the following matters and, pursuant to subsection 4-A, submit a report that includes those findings and recommendations to the department, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Marine Resources and the Legislature:~~

A. The importation and transportation of invasive aquatic plants and nuisance species;

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 B. Monitoring and educational programs aimed at the control of invasive aquatic plants  
2 and nuisance species;

3 C. A comprehensive state invasive aquatic plants and nuisance species management  
4 plan that meets the requirements of the National Invasive Species Act of 1996, 16  
5 United States Code, Section 4722;

6 D. A statewide inventory of invasive aquatic plants and nuisance species;

7 E. Methods to improve cooperation of state, provincial, federal and nongovernmental  
8 agencies in the area of invasive aquatic plants and nuisance species prevention and  
9 control;

10 F. Recommendations on the feasibility of implementing lake protection assessment  
11 districts that allow residents and owners of land within 250 feet of inland waters to  
12 assess themselves to raise funds to assist in the prevention and control of invasive  
13 aquatic plants; and

14 G. Other recommendations as necessary to control the introduction of invasive aquatic  
15 plants and nuisance species in the State.

16 In developing findings and recommendations under this subsection, the task force shall  
17 convene a stakeholder group that includes, but is not limited to, task force members, state  
18 natural resources agency staff and other persons with relevant experience or expertise  
19 including representatives of local and regional lake associations and representatives of lake  
20 protection organizations.

21 **Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §1871, sub-§4-A** is enacted to read:

22 **4-A. Report.** On or before January 15, 2023, and biennially thereafter, the task force  
23 shall submit to the department, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the  
24 Department of Marine Resources and the joint standing committees of the Legislature  
25 having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources matters, inland fisheries and  
26 wildlife matters and marine resources matters a report containing its findings and  
27 recommendations, including any suggested legislation, developed pursuant to subsection  
28 4. After reviewing the report, each joint standing committee may report out legislation  
29 related to the report.

30 **Sec. 4. Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance**  
31 **Species; report.** The Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance  
32 Species established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-D,  
33 subsection 6 shall include in the report required by Title 38, section 1871, subsection 4-A  
34 and due January 15, 2023 additional findings and recommendations on:

35 1. Methods to expedite and improve the process for treating lakes infested with invasive  
36 aquatic plants with newly developed herbicide treatments or vegetation removal processes;

37 2. Methods to expedite and improve restrictions limiting the use of watercraft on areas  
38 of lakes infested with invasive aquatic plants;

39 3. The feasibility of requiring inspections of watercraft put into or taken out of lakes  
40 infested with invasive aquatic plants or lakes identified by the Department of  
41 Environmental Protection to be at risk of infestation; and

1 4. The permit requirements for recreational and sporting events held on lakes infested  
2 with invasive aquatic plants or lakes identified by the department to be at risk of infestation.'

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

5 **SUMMARY**

6 This amendment changes the title of and replaces the bill, removing the emergency  
7 preamble and emergency clause. It amends the statute governing the Interagency Task  
8 Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species to require that, on or before January  
9 15, 2023, and biennially thereafter, the task force submit to the Department of  
10 Environmental Protection, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the  
11 Department of Marine Resources and the joint standing committees of the Legislature  
12 having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources matters, inland fisheries and  
13 wildlife matters and marine resources matters a report containing its findings and  
14 recommendations, including any suggested legislation, on a variety of matters relating to  
15 controlling the introduction of invasive aquatic plants and nuisance species in the State.  
16 After reviewing the report, each joint standing committee may report out legislation related  
17 to the report.

18 The amendment also requires the task force, in developing those findings and  
19 recommendations, to convene a stakeholder group that includes, but is not limited to, task  
20 force members, state natural resources agency staff and other persons with relevant  
21 experience or expertise including representatives of local and regional lake associations  
22 and representatives of lake protection organizations. It provides that for the first report due  
23 January 15, 2023, the task force is required to include additional one-time findings on a  
24 number of specified matters.

25 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

26 (See attached)



Approved: 02/09/22 *MAC*

# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1826

LR 2466(02)

## An Act To Create a Subcommittee of the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species To Recommend Ways To Reduce the Threat of Further Infestations

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *A(H-774)*

Committee: Environment and Natural Resources

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

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### Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species to develop certain findings and recommendations and to report by January 15, 2023, and for the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Marine Resources to participate in a stakeholder group convened to advise on these matters, are anticipated to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.