

## LAWS

### **OF THE**

# **STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION November 28, 1995 to December 1, 1995

SECOND REGULAR SESSION January 3, 1996 to April 4, 1996

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST REGULAR SESSION NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS JULY 4, 1996

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

> J.S. McCarthy Company Augusta, Maine 1995

**Sec. E-2. Effective date.** Parts B, C, D and E of this Act take effect October 1, 1997.

See title page for effective date, unless otherwise indicated.

#### **CHAPTER 695**

#### S.P. 666 - L.D. 1726

#### An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Task Force to Study the Operations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

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

Whereas, these improvements in the operations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife must take effect July 1, 1996; and

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

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7794, sub-§9, as amended by PL 1989, c. 493, §53, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7794, sub-§9-A is enacted to read:

<u>9-A. Certificate of number; term. A certificate of number issued to the owner of a watercraft:</u>

A. If issued prior to July 1, 1996, is valid from the date of issuance of that certificate of number until midnight on the last day of the 12th month after the month of issuance or midnight on December 31, 1996, whichever comes first; and

B. If issued on or after July 1, 1996, must be issued for a specific calendar year and is valid from January 1st to December 31st of the calendar year for which the certificate of number is issued.

A certificate of number issued to a dealer expires at midnight on December 31st of the calendar year for which the certificate was issued.

Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §1503, sub-§8, as amended by PL 1985, c.726, §2, is repealed.

Sec. 4. 36 MRSA §1503, sub-§8-A is enacted to read:

<u>8-A.</u> Registration period. The term "registration period" means, for watercraft having a certificate of number issued under Title 12, section 7794:

A. Prior to July 1, 1996, the period from the date of issuance of that certificate of number until midnight on the last day of the 12th month after the month of issuance or midnight on December 31, 1996, whichever comes first; and

B. On or after July 1, 1996, from January 1st to December 31st of the calendar year for which the certificate of number is issued.

Sec. 5. PL 1995, c. 455, §44, sub-§8 is enacted to read:

**8.** Additional task force meeting. The chair of the task force shall call a meeting of the task force on any day between June 1, 1996 and June 30, 1996 to review the progress of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in implementing the recommendations of the task force. Members of the task force are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement of expenses for any meeting held under this section.

**Sec. 6. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1996-97

\$178,000

#### INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE, DEPARTMENT OF

#### Savings Fund Program

All Other

Appropriates funds to be used only to avoid future license fee increases.

**Sec. 7. Retroactivity.** That section of this Act that amends Public Law 1995, chapter 455 applies retroactively to December 1, 1995.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

Effective April 11, 1996.