

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Continue the Position of Director of Recreational Access and Landowner Relations

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

Sec. 1. Transfer; Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Carrying Balances - General Fund account. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on or before September 1, 2009, the State Controller shall transfer \$45,214 from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Other Special Revenue Funds account to the Department of Conservation, Maine State Parks Development Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account to fund 1/2 of the cost of the limited-period landowners relations program for fiscal year 2009-10.

Sec. 2. Working group on the recreational access and landowner relations program. The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Commissioner of Conservation shall jointly convene a working group on the recreational access and landowner relations program, referred to in this section as "the program." At least one other employee from each department shall serve on the working group and the commissioners shall invite the participation of at least 2 landowners and 2 recreation users in the working group. The working group shall:

1. Create a work plan for the program through June 2011;
2. Review the scope of the duties, structure, funding level and support for the position of the Director of Recreational Access and Landowner Relations, referred to in this section as "the position";
3. Identify sustainable funding sources for the position as a permanent position;
4. Propose grant-funding opportunities to strengthen outreach efforts;
5. Develop recommendations for enhanced volunteer efforts, including building on existing agency volunteer programs;
6. Review distribution of the costs of and support for the program to ensure that it is fairly aligned with those benefited by the program; and
7. Review landowner relations programs in other states.

The working group shall submit a report, including its findings, by December 31, 2009 to the Governor, the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The working group shall include in its submission recommendations for permanent funding of the position for inclusion in the next biennial budget.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

CONSERVATION, DEPARTMENT OF

Administrative Services - Conservation 0222

Initiative: Continues one limited-period Public Service Coordinator I position in the Maine State Parks Development Fund program and provides funding for the associated All Other costs in the Administrative Services - Conservation program. This position was originally established in Resolve 2007, chapter 130. This position will end on June 11, 2011.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2009-10	2010-11
All Other	\$2,500	\$2,500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$2,500	\$2,500

Maine State Parks Development Fund 0342

Initiative: Continues one limited-period Public Service Coordinator I position in the Maine State Parks Development Fund program and provides funding for the associated All Other costs in the Administrative Services - Conservation program. This position was originally established in Resolve 2007, chapter 130. This position will end on June 11, 2011.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2009-10	2010-11
Personal Services	\$84,382	\$89,370
All Other	\$6,045	\$6,190
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$90,427	\$95,560

CONSERVATION, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2009-10	2010-11
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$92,927	\$98,060
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$92,927	\$98,060

Effective September 12, 2009