



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 1225

H.P. 843

House of Representatives, April 7, 2015

An Act To Limit the Use of Ropes and Buoys in Swim Areas in Great Ponds

(AFTER DEADLINE)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative SHAW of Standish.
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and
Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, CRAFTS of Lisbon, MARTIN of Sinclair, REED of
Carmel, SHORT of Pittsfield, WOOD of Greene, Senators: CYRWAY of Kennebec,
DUTREMBLE of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §1900, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 312, §1, is amended
3 to read:

4 **3. Swim area prohibition.** A person may not establish or maintain a swim line or a
5 developed swim area without a permit issued under subsection 4. A person may not
6 establish or maintain a swim line or a developed swim area unless the length of the
7 developed swim area or of the area delineated by a swim line is equal to or less than 50%
8 of the entire length of the shore frontage of the property from which the developed swim
9 area or the area delineated by a swim line extends or 200 feet, whichever is greater. The
10 length of a developed swim area or of an area delineated by a swim line is measured
11 parallel to the shore.

12 A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine
13 of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged. Each day a person
14 violates this subsection is a separate violation.

15 B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having
16 committed 3 or more civil violations under this subchapter within the previous 5-year
17 period commits a Class E crime.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill provides that a person may not establish or maintain a swim line or a
20 developed swim area unless the length of the developed swim area or of the area
21 delineated by a swim line is equal to or less than 50% of the entire length of the shore
22 frontage of the property from which the developed swim area or the area delineated by a
23 swim line extends or 200 feet, whichever is greater. The length of a developed swim area
24 or of an area delineated by a swim line is measured parallel to the shore. The length of
25 the swim line will determine where a line, rope or series of buoys used to delineate an
26 area of surface water for the purpose of swimming may be placed.