



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 293

H.P. 237

House of Representatives, February 3, 2011

An Act To Waive Snowmobile Registration Requirements for Canadians Riding on Maine Trails

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative AYOTTE of Caswell.
Cosponsored by Senator SHERMAN of Aroostook and
Representatives: BURNS of Whiting, CLARK of Easton, EDGECOMB of Caribou,
WILLETTE of Mapleton, Senator: JACKSON of Aroostook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §13104, sub-§7**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 184, §1, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **7. Snowmobiles of nonresidents.** Except as specifically provided in this subsection
5 and notwithstanding any other provision of law, a snowmobile belonging to a nonresident
6 may be possessed or operated by any person in this State as long as the snowmobile is
7 properly registered in this State in the name of a nonresident owner of the snowmobile.
8 Nothing in this subsection authorizes the operation of a snowmobile in a manner contrary
9 to this chapter.

10 A. A nonresident is ineligible to obtain a resident registration for a snowmobile
11 owned by that nonresident. Snowmobiles and grooming equipment registered to
12 federal or state entities, snowmobile clubs, municipalities or counties from bordering
13 states or provinces and engaged in trail grooming may be operated without being
14 registered under this subsection. Snowmobiles registered in either New Hampshire or
15 Canada may be operated on any lake or pond that is partly in both the State and New
16 Hampshire or Canada without being registered in the State.

17 B. A snowmobile registered in this State or in New Hampshire may be operated
18 without further registration requirements on those portions of the Maine-New
19 Hampshire Cooperative Trails located in Maine. For purposes of this paragraph,
20 "Maine-New Hampshire Cooperative Trails" means:

21 (1) New Hampshire Trail 18 as identified in the Success Pond - Grafton Notch
22 area; and

23 (2) Maine Trail ITS-80 as identified in the Evans Notch area of the White
24 Mountain National Forest.

25 C. Snowmobiles registered in another state or in a Canadian province may be
26 operated without a Maine registration at a special event or festival organized to occur
27 in this State if such operation is approved by the commissioner. An event or festival
28 organizer must submit a request in writing to the commissioner at least 60 days prior
29 to the event or festival and shall include a map of trails where operation will be
30 allowed.

31 D. A snowmobile owned or under the control of a snowmobile manufacturer may be
32 operated without a Maine registration at a demonstration event organized to occur in
33 this State if such operation is approved by the commissioner. A snowmobile
34 manufacturer or a representative of a snowmobile manufacturer must submit a
35 request in writing to the commissioner at least 60 days prior to the demonstration
36 event and shall include a description and the location of the event.

37 E. A snowmobile registered in a Canadian province may be operated without a
38 Maine registration on state-funded snowmobile trails as long as the snowmobile is
39 insured in Canada and the rider belongs to a snowmobile club located in this State.
40 The commissioner shall designate snowmobile clubs for purposes of this paragraph.

41 The commissioner shall adopt rules regarding the grooming and maintenance of the
42 Maine-New Hampshire Cooperative Trails and reimbursement or payment for those

1 services. The rules must allow reimbursement for grooming and maintenance services to
2 be through direct cash payments by users of the Maine-New Hampshire Cooperative
3 Trails or through in-kind services. The costs of grooming and maintenance must be
4 based on the average per mile costs to Maine and New Hampshire of providing these
5 services. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined
6 in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

7

SUMMARY

8 This bill provides that a snowmobile registered in a Canadian province may be
9 operated without a Maine registration on state-funded snowmobile trails as long as the
10 snowmobile is insured in Canada and the rider belongs to a snowmobile club located in
11 Maine.