

**§159-C. Liability related to placement of navigational aids in great ponds**

**1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Great pond" has the meaning given in Title 38, section 480-B, subsection 5. [PL 1997, c. 739, §10 (NEW).]

B. "Lake association" means a nonprofit organization incorporated under state law whose corporate purpose includes maintenance or improvement of water quality or public safety on a great pond, management of water levels or other social, educational, stewardship or advocacy efforts to benefit users of or the natural environment of a great pond. [PL 1997, c. 739, §10 (NEW).]

C. "Navigational aid markers" means navigational aids that conform to rules governing the State's marking of waterways. [PL 1997, c. 739, §10 (NEW).]  
[PL 1997, c. 739, §10 (NEW).]

**2. Limited liability.** A lake association that has obtained a permit from the former Department of Conservation or the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to place navigational aid markers in great ponds is not liable for personal injury, property damage or death caused by placement or maintenance of those navigational aid markers as long as the lake association has placed or maintained the markers in conformance with the terms and conditions of the permit.  
[PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. D, §12 (AMD).]

**3. No remuneration.** In order to qualify for the immunity granted in subsection 2, a lake association may not receive any remuneration from the State or otherwise for placing navigational aid markers in great ponds.  
[PL 1997, c. 739, §10 (NEW).]

**4. Limitations.** This section does not limit any liability that may otherwise exist for willful or malicious actions or failures to guard or warn against a known dangerous condition related to the navigational aid markers.  
[PL 1997, c. 739, §10 (NEW).]

**5. No duty created.** Nothing in this section creates a duty of care or ground for liability.  
[PL 1997, c. 739, §10 (NEW).]

**6. Costs and fees.** The court may award any direct legal costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, to a lake association against which a tort or related action is brought when the lake association is found not liable pursuant to this section.  
[PL 1997, c. 739, §10 (NEW).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1997, c. 739, §10 (NEW). PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. D, §12 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through January 1, 2025. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.