



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 441

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H.P. 274

House of Representatives, February 2, 2023

**An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Recreational Freshwater  
Fishing with Respect to a Portion of Middle River in Marshfield and  
Machias**

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative DAVIS of East Machias.  
Cosponsored by Representative: STROUT of Harrington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12458, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

3 **3. Middle River.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the portion of  
4 Middle River in Marshfield and Machias below the bridge on Marshfield Flats Road  
5 downstream to the mouth of Smelt Brook is open to recreational fishing by an owner of the  
6 land immediately adjacent to the river or any member of that owner's immediate family, as  
7 long as the owner or family member holds a valid license to fish issued under section  
8 12501.

9 **SUMMARY**

10 This bill allows an owner of the land immediately adjacent to Middle River in  
11 Marshfield and Machias or that owner's immediate family to fish on Middle River.