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Date: (Filing No. H-)

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 60, L.D. 92, “An Act to Minimize the Propagation of Invasive Aquatic Plants”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §419-C, sub-§1, ¶D, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 627, §7, is amended to read:

D. Fail to remove any aquatic plant or parts of any aquatic plant, including roots, rhizomes, stems, leaves or seeds, from the outside of a vehicle, boat, personal watercraft, boat trailer or other equipment on a public road; or

Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §419-C, sub-§1, ¶E is enacted to read:

E. Drain or release water held on or within a watercraft, allowing that water to enter any inland water body of the State. This restriction applies solely to water transported from a different water source. For the purposes of this paragraph, "watercraft" has the same meaning as in Title 12, section 13001, subsection 28.

Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §419-C, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Draining of watercraft and equipment. Just prior to launching and when removing a watercraft from an inland water body and prior to transport away from the launch site, a person:

A. Shall remove or open any hull drain plugs, bailers, valves, live wells, ballast tanks and other devices designed for routine removal or opening and closing to encourage water to drain from areas containing water. Containers holding live baitfish for personal or commercial use are exempted from requirements in this subsection; and

B. May not allow drains to be opened in a way that allows water to enter any inland water body of the State pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph E.

For the purposes of this subsection, "watercraft" has the same meaning as in Title 12, section 13001, subsection 28.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 Nothing in this subsection allows a person to directly or indirectly discharge pollutants into
2 any inland water body of the State. This subsection does not apply to emergency response
3 watercraft and their related equipment.'

4 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
5 number to read consecutively.

6 **SUMMARY**

7 This amendment replaces the provisions of the bill. The amendment requires a person
8 when removing a watercraft from an inland water body to drain the watercraft and other
9 equipment and to remove or open drain plugs, bailers, valves and other devices to drain the
10 water before that watercraft is transported. The amendment exempts emergency response
11 watercraft from these requirements. The amendment also prohibits draining or releasing
12 water held on or within a watercraft and allowing that water to enter any inland water body
13 of the State if the water in the watercraft is from a different water source.

14 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

15 **(See attached)**