

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

H.P. 230 - L.D. 379

Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Study the Effects of Wake Boats on Shoreline Property and the Environment

Sec. 1. Department to study effects of wake boats. Resolved: That the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, referred to in this resolve as "the department," shall establish a stakeholder group to review completed studies relating to wake boats and their effects on shoreline property and the environment. The stakeholder group shall pay special attention to issues relating to the types of boats used, the appropriate distance from the shoreline and depth of the body of water, enforcement mechanisms, including fines, and the definition used for "wake boat."

Sec. 2. Stakeholder group. Resolved: That the department shall invite participation in the stakeholder group from at least the following:

1. A member of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife from the Senate;
2. A member of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife from the House of Representatives;
3. A member of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council;
4. A member representing the Department of Environmental Protection;
5. A member representing Maine Audubon;
6. A member representing the Lakes Environmental Association;
7. A member representing an association for Maine youth camps;
8. A member representing Maine Marine Trades Association;
9. A member representing Maine lake associations; and
10. A member representing the water sports industry.

The department may hold public meetings to gauge public support for any recommendations that are developed by the stakeholder group.

Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That the department shall report the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group established under section 1 to the Joint Standing

Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than February 1, 2024. The committee may report out a bill related to wake boats and their effects on shoreline property and the environment to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.