

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Eradicate Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species

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

Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEPARTMENT OF

Land and Water Quality 0248

Initiative: Appropriates funds on a one-time basis to provide competitive grants to support public and private nonprofit efforts to eradicate invasive aquatic plants from the State's freshwater lakes, rivers and streams. These funds may be carried forward until all available money has been disbursed as grants.

GENERAL FUND	2007-08	2008-09
All Other	\$2,000,000	\$0
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GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$2,000,000	\$0

Sec. 2. Grant administration. The Department of Environmental Protection shall administer the grants authorized in section 1 in accordance with guidelines developed by the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species. Grants may be awarded only to state and local government entities and 501(c)(3) organizations established and operating in the State.

SUMMARY

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to provide competitive grants to support public and private nonprofit efforts to eradicate invasive aquatic plants from the State's freshwater lakes, rivers and streams. The bill also requires that the Department of Environmental Protection administer the grants in accordance with guidelines developed by the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species. Grants may be awarded only to state and local government entities and 501(c)(3) organizations established and operating in the State.