

130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 1012

H.P. 750

House of Representatives, March 10, 2021

An Act To Fund Wildlife Rehabilitators

(EMERGENCY)

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

ROBERT B. HUNT

R(+ B. Hunt

Clerk

Presented by Representative FAY of Raymond.

1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and 3 Whereas, the work of wildlife rehabilitators requires funding; and 4 Whereas, the next deadline for Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund grant applicants to start the grant application process is July 15, 2021, which is before the expiration of the 90-day 5 period; and 6 7 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 8 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, 9 10 therefore, 11 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: 12 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10307, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read: 13 14 1. Fisheries and wildlife; habitat conservation. Thirty-five Thirty percent of the money in the fund for fisheries and wildlife and habitat conservation projects; 15 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10307, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and 16 affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read: 17 18 3. Endangered and threatened species. Fifteen Ten percent of the money in the fund 19 for endangered and threatened species conservation projects; and 20 Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §10307, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read: 21 22 4. Natural resources law enforcement. Fifteen percent of the money in the fund for 23 natural resources law enforcement-; and 24 Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §10307, sub-§5 is enacted to read: 25 5. Wildlife rehabilitation. Ten percent of the money in the fund for wildlife rehabilitation projects. 26 27 Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §10309, sub-§3, ¶F, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read: 28 29 F. Available matching funds; and Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §10309, sub-§4, ¶E, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 30 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read: 31 32 E. Available matching funds-; and 33 **Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §10309, sub-§5** is enacted to read: 34 **5. Wildlife rehabilitation.** For the category of wildlife rehabilitation: 35 A. A species or species group under subsection 1; 36 B. A species or species group under subsection 3;

C. Fish or wildlife of statewide or regional significance;

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e preamble, this legislation
s agencies that are applying new category is wildlife
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8 9 10 for a grant from the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund. The new category is wildlife rehabilitation and includes criteria for the board to take into account when considering and awarding grants to projects under that category. The new category represents 10% of available annual grant money, reallocating funding from 2 other existing categories.