

**TESTIMONY OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND
WILDLIFE
IN OPPOSITION TO L.D. 1924**

“An Act to Provide for Enforcement of Snowmobile and All-terrain Vehicle Laws”

DATE OF HEARING: May 15, 2023

Good morning Senator LaFountain, Representative Landry and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. I am Tim Peabody, Deputy Commissioner speaking on behalf of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in opposition to **L.D. 1924**.

This bill increases registration fees for snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles by \$10 and dedicates the additional revenue to the Snowmobile Enforcement Fund and the ATV Enforcement Fund, respectively. It provides an allocation for the purchase of 16 law enforcement ATVs for use by the Department for enforcement activities.

While the department certainly supports the concept of having more equipment to provide increased presence and enforcement to address violations of ATV and snowmobile laws, we cannot support another increase to the registration fees at this time.

The ATV registration just increased in 2021 as a result of the ATV Task Force proposals. It also appears that another amended bill voted on by this committee (LD 296) will pass this year and increase the ATV registration agent fee from \$1 to \$5 when an ATV is registered through a municipality.

I would be glad to answer any questions at this time or during the work session.