MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 864

H. P. 648 House of Representatives, February 13, 1973 Referred to Committee on Marine Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Birt of East Millinocket.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT to Authorize the Commissioner of Sea and Shore Fisheries to enter into an Agreement to Lease the Land, Buildings and Facilities of the National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Laboratory at Boothbay Harbor.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Laboratory, Boothbay Harbor, Maine, has conducted research which is vital to the protection and development of the coastal and marine resources of Maine and of the Maine coastal fishing industry; and

Whereas, the United States Department of Commerce has announced plans to close said laboratory on or about June 30, 1973; and

Whereas, the continuation of research of this nature and the use of this laboratory facility is vital to the economy of Maine and to the protection of the resources of Maine; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 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, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. Agreements. The Commissioner of Sea and Shore Fisheries is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Government of the United States to lease the land, buildings and facilities of the National Marine Fish-

eries Service Biological Laboratory at Boothbay Harbor, Maine now operated by the United States Department of Commerce. The commissioner shall use said laboratory for the purpose of scientific research, promotion and development relative to any areas of marine and commercial fishery resources over which he has jurisdiction.

This commissioner is authorized to enter into agreements with the University of Maine or with any other agency of the State of Maine or with any agency of the Government of the United States or with any corporation or person interested in scientific research relating to coastal marine or commercial fishery resources, for the use of said laboratory or any of its facilities, for research, promotion and development of coastal, marine and commercial fishery resources.

- Sec. 2. Funds. The commissioner is authorized to seek and expend federal funds for the purposes of this Act and to accept donations from industry and interested persons and corporations for the purposes of this Act.
- Sec. 3. Employees. The commissioner is authorized to hire such additional employees as shall be necessary for the purposes of this Act.
- Sec. 4. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries the sum of \$700,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

1973-74 1974-75

SEA AND SHORE FISHERIES, DEPARTMENT OF

All Other

\$350,000

\$350,000

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is as stated in the title.