

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. of S.

L.D. 951

DATE: 4-28-97

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**MARINE RESOURCES**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
118TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 687, L.D. 951, Bill, "An Act to Require that Fish Raised in an Area Subject to a Lease Agreement with the Department of Marine Resources Be Processed in the United States"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act to Maximize the State's Processing of Aquaculture Fish and to Extend the Salmon Aquaculture Monitoring, Research and Development Fund'**

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

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

**Whereas, the Salmon Aquaculture Monitoring, Research and Development Fund will be repealed on July 1, 1997 unless immediate action is taken; and**

**Whereas, the Salmon Aquaculture Monitoring, Research and Development Fund is essential to the continued monitoring and development of the State's valuable salmon aquaculture industry; 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**

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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. 12 MRSA §6078, sub-§9**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 609, §2, is amended to read:

**9. Repeal.** This section is repealed July 1, 1997 1999.

**Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6080, sub-§6**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 609, §3, is amended to read:

**6. Repeal.** This section is repealed July 1, 1997 1999.

**Sec. 3. Report.** The Commissioner of Marine Resources shall submit a report by February 1, 1998 to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House and the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources on strategies to maximize in-state processing of fish raised in the State's aquaculture facilities and strategies for growth of Maine's finfish aquaculture industry in a manner compatible with traditional fisheries. The report must include analyses of the following:

1. The number or poundage of fish raised in state aquaculture facilities that is processed in Maine and in other states or countries;

2. The number or poundage of fish processed in Maine and identification of the states or countries from which the fish originates;

3. The opportunities to increase Maine processing of fish raised in aquaculture facilities;

4. Market conditions and actions necessary to result in the processing in Maine of all fish raised in Maine aquaculture facilities;

5. The current state and practices of the finfish aquaculture industry in Maine, including the extent and location of lease holdings, employment, sales, consumption of Maine-based products and payment of state and local taxes;

6. The economic benefits to Maine from current activities and businesses associated with finfish aquaculture, including processing, shipping, transportation, purchases of supplies and equipment and production of food supplies for Maine and other United States citizens;

7. Strategies for Maine to increase the economic benefits derived from the State's finfish aquaculture industry and identification of those benefits; and

8. The payment or nonpayment of the production fee required under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6078 by people who produce salmon in areas leased from the State and the method by which those salmon are weighed and the fee is assessed.

The Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources may report out legislation during the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature regarding the State's aquaculture laws.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

#### FISCAL NOTE

Extending the repeal date for the Salmon Aquaculture Monitoring, Research and Development Fund will continue the fund for fiscal years 1997-98 and 1998-99. Continuation of the fund will increase dedicated revenues collected by the Department of Marine Resources by \$286,105 and \$289,305 in fiscal years 1997-98 and 1998-99, respectively. These amounts of budgeted dedicated revenue were included in base revenue estimates and allocations from the fund of these same amounts were included in Public Law 1997, chapter 24, Section A-25.

The Department of Marine Resources will incur some minor additional costs to submit a required report to the Legislature. These costs can be absorbed within the department's existing budgeted resources.

The additional workload and administrative costs associated with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system can be absorbed within the budgeted resources of the Judicial Department. The collection of additional fines may increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

#### SUMMARY

The amendment changes the repeal of the Salmon Aquaculture Monitoring, Research and Development Fund and the Maine Salmon

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 687, L.D. 951

2 Aquaculture Advisory Council from July 1, 1997 to July 1, 1999.  
3 It also requires the Commissioner of Marine Resources to report  
4 by February 1, 1998 on strategies to maximize in-state processing  
5 of fish raised in Maine aquaculture facilities and strategies for  
6 growth of the State's aquaculture industry in a manner compatible  
with traditional fisheries.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**