

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 793

S.P. 260

In Senate, February 15, 2005

An Act To Reauthorize Funding for the Lobster Promotion Council

Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DAMON of Hancock.

Cosponsored by Representative PERCY of Phippsburg and

Senators: RAYE of Washington, SULLIVAN of York, Representatives: ADAMS of Portland,
KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, PINGREE of North Haven.

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

2
4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6455, sub-§5,** as amended by PL 2001, c. 226,
§1, is further amended to read:

6 **5. Fund established; license surcharge assessed.** The
8 Lobster Promotion Fund, referred to in this subchapter as the
"fund," is established to carry out the purposes of this
10 subchapter. The department shall pay to the fund all money
appropriated or received by the department for the purposes of
12 this subchapter, except that the department may retain funds
necessary to reimburse the department for the actual cost of
14 collecting the license surcharges established in this
subsection. The fund is capitalized from the following annual
16 surcharges assessed on the following licenses issued by the
department for calendar years 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997,
1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 to 2020:

18 A. Class I crab and lobster licenses for persons 18 to 69
20 years of age, \$31.25;

22 B. Class II crab and lobster licenses, \$62.50;

24 C. Class III crab and lobster licenses, \$93.75;

26 D. Wholesale seafood licenses with lobster permits, \$250;
and

28 E. Lobster transportation licenses, \$250.

30
32 A person holding more than one of the licenses listed in this
subsection is assessed a surcharge only on the highest
surchargeable license held.

34
36 The Treasurer of State shall hold all surcharges assessed by this
subsection in the fund and invest all money in the fund until
38 disbursed to the council upon request of the council. Interest
from investments accrues to the fund.

40
42 All money in the fund is subject to allocation by the
Legislature. Unexpended balances in the fund at the end of the
44 fiscal year may not lapse but must be carried forward to be used
for the same purposes.

46
48 In addition to payment of the regular license fee and the
surcharge, a person purchasing a license subject to the
44 surcharges established in this subsection may make voluntary
contributions to the fund at the time the license is purchased.
Voluntary contributions received by the department from a
50 licensee pursuant to this subsection must be deposited in the

2 fund by the department and must be used by the council for the
purposes of this subchapter.

4

SUMMARY

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8 This bill continues to capitalize the Lobster Promotion Fund
through surcharges on lobster and crab licenses through the year
2020.