

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1353

H.P. 876

House of Representatives, April 1, 2025

An Act Regarding Required Landings in the Menhaden Fishery

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 28, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and
Representatives: FARRIN of Jefferson, GOLEK of Harpswell, RIELLY of Westbrook,
THORNE of Carmel.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6502-C, sub-§1-B, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 670, §2, is amended to read:

1-B. Commercial menhaden fishing license eligibility after 2023. The Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1-E, the commissioner may not issue a resident commercial menhaden fishing license or a nonresident commercial menhaden fishing license to an individual in any year subsequent to 2023 unless that individual possessed that license in the previous calendar year.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6502-C, sub-§1-E is enacted to read:

1-E. Commercial menhaden fishing license eligibility in 2026. Notwithstanding subsection 1-B, the commissioner may issue a 2026 resident commercial menhaden fishing license or a 2026 nonresident commercial menhaden fishing license to an individual if that individual:

A. Meets the requirements of subsection 1-A, paragraph A; and

B. According to department records, reported legal landings of menhaden of 20,000 pounds or more in at least one of the following 4 years, 2019, 2020, 2021 or 2022.

Documentation, acceptable to the department, showing that the landing requirement in this paragraph has been met must be submitted to the department by January 1, 2026.

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Marine Resources to issue a 2026 resident commercial menhaden fishing license or a 2026 nonresident commercial menhaden fishing license to an individual if that individual reported legal landings of menhaden of 20,000 pounds or more in at least one of the following years, 2019, 2020, 2021 or 2022. The individual must also have possessed a license to fish commercially for menhaden in at least 2 of the following years, 2019, 2020, 2021 or 2022.