

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1561

H.P. 1019

House of Representatives, April 10, 2025

**Resolve, Regarding the Percentage of a Lobster and Crab Fishing
Licensee's Lobster Traps That May Be Fished in a Lobster
Management Zone Listed on the License as a Secondary Zone**

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and
Representatives: EATON of Deer Isle, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, STOVER of
Boothbay, Senator: TEPLER of Sagadahoc.

Sec. 1. Definitions. Resolved: That for the purposes of this resolve, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. "Department" means the Department of Marine Resources.

2. "Lobster management policy council" or "council" means a council established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6447, subsection 1.

3. "Secondary zone" means a lobster management zone listed on a lobster and crab fishing license, in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6446, subsection 1-A, as a zone in which the licensee intends to fish some, but not the majority, of the licensee's lobster traps.

Sec. 2. Input from lobster management policy councils; report. Resolved:

That the department shall seek input from the lobster management policy councils to obtain feedback regarding what percentage of a lobster and crab fishing licensee's lobster traps a licensee may fish in a secondary zone. The department shall develop recommendations regarding the percentage based on the input received from the councils. By December 3, 2025, the department shall submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources a report that includes the department's recommendations. The committee may submit legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Department of Marine Resources to seek input from the lobster management policy councils to obtain feedback regarding what percentage of a lobster and crab fishing licensee's lobster traps a licensee may fish in a lobster management zone that is listed on the licensee's license as a zone in which the licensee intends to fish some lobster traps, but is not designated as the zone in which the licensee intends to fish the majority of the licensee's lobster traps, also known as a secondary zone. The department must use the input received from the councils to develop recommendations regarding the percentage of traps that may be fished in a secondary zone. The department must submit a report, including its recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources no later than December 3, 2025. The committee is authorized to submit legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.