

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

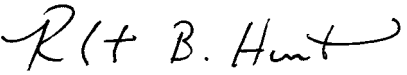
No. 1595

H.P. 1053

House of Representatives, April 10, 2025

An Act to Strengthen Working Waterfronts Against Nuisance Complaints Regarding Aquaculture

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


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative RIELLY of Westbrook.
Cosponsored by Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, HASENFUS of Readfield,
LOOKNER of Portland, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, PLUECKER of Warren, SIMMONS of
Waldoboro, TERRY of Gorham.

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

Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §2807, sub-§1, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 99, §1, is amended to read:

A. "Commercial fishing activity" means an activity directly related to a commercial ~~fishing~~ fishing ~~fisheries~~ business as defined in Title 12, section 6001, subsection 6-A or a commercial activity commonly associated with or supportive of commercial fishing or aquaculture, such as the manufacture or sale of ice, bait, traps, cages or nets or the manufacture, installation or repair of boats, engines or other equipment commonly used on boats or in facilities that involve the catching, transporting, buying, selling or processing of seafood for commercial purposes.

Sec. 2. 17 MRSA §2807, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 99, §1, is repealed.

SUMMARY

This bill amends the law that prohibits private nuisance actions against a person engaged in a commercial fishing activity or commercial fishing operation to include activities associated with aquaculture and commercial fisheries businesses, which include enterprises concerned with the commercial harvest of wild or aquacultured marine organisms.