

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1790

H.P. 1201

House of Representatives, April 24, 2025

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### An Act Regarding Lobster Measurement

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor.

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

**Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6431, sub-§1-B,** as enacted by PL 2021, c. 512, §2, is amended to read:

**1-B. Compliance with interstate fishery management plan.** ~~The commissioner may adopt rules to set minimum and maximum lobster sizes different from those specified in subsection 1 when~~ When necessary to comply with changes to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American Lobster regarding minimum and maximum lobster sizes different from those specified in subsection 1, the commissioner shall submit legislation to the Legislature with proposed minimum and maximum lobster sizes. ~~Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. The commissioner shall notify the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters when initiating rulemaking pursuant to this subsection.~~

## SUMMARY

This bill removes the authority of the Commissioner of Marine Resources to adopt rules to set minimum and maximum lobster sizes different from those specified in statute. Instead, the bill requires the department to submit legislation to the Legislature when changes to minimum and maximum lobster sizes are necessary to comply with changes to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American Lobster.