

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
MARINE RESOURCES
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1987

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD AN ACT RELATING TO BIODEGRADABLE LOBSTER TRAP
410 VENTS.

LVWD

EMERGENCY

Sponsor: LOOK, Scarpino, Vose, Dutremble D
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This bill was introduced to override Department of Marine Resource regulations requiring a biodegradable lobster trap vent by March 1, 1987, by extending the date to January 1, 1990. The bill included the provision that all new traps had to comply with the biodegradable escape vent provision. In March, the Department extended the deadline for implementing these regulations to January 1, 1988, to fine tune their regulations. The concerns of the sponsor were addressed and the bill was withdrawn.

LD AN ACT RELATING TO LOBSTER TRAP VENTS.
421

PL 1987
c. 101

Sponsor: SCARPINO
Committee Report: OTP - (Amended in House)
Amendments Adopted:
H-70 MITCHELL

SUMMARY: Wire mesh traps increasingly are being used along the Maine coast replacing traditional wooden traps. The most common wire mesh is an inch wide. The length of the escape vents, measured from inside the opening, only measures 5 3/4 inches because of the width of the wire.

The critical dimension for sublegal-sized lobsters to escape is the width. It must be at least 1 3/4 inches. The bill proposed to decrease the length of escape vents from 6 inches to 5 3/4 inches in response to the wire mesh problem. It was felt that the proposed reduction in length would not significantly alter the vent's effectiveness.

The bill was amended in the House (H-70) because the word "inches" was inadvertently left out of the specifications.