

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
MARINE RESOURCES

JULY 1993

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**JULY 1993**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<i>ENACTMENT FAILED</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

4693NRG

**LD 96**

**An Act Concerning Lobster Licensing**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
FARREN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have required the Commissioner of Marine Resources to adopt rules establishing a recreational lobster harvesting license. The rules would have established the fee for a recreational lobster license, set the dates for a recreational harvesting season and limited the number of traps allowed under that license.

**LD 110**

**An Act to Change the Legal Harvesting Size of Clams**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
LOOK

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have decreased the minimum statewide legal size of soft-shell clams from 2 inches to 1 1/2 inches. The bill also would have allowed municipalities and unorganized territories to adopt shellfish conservation ordinances that establish larger minimum sizes if harvesting clams in the 1 1/2-inch size range was detrimental to the local soft-shell clam resource.

**LD 140**

**An Act Concerning the Taking of Sea Urchins**

PUBLIC 416  
EMERGENCY

**SPONSOR(S)**  
TOWNSEND G

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-366  
H-380 MITCHELL J

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed a January 1st to April 15th season for harvesting sea urchins.

Committee amendment "A" (H-366) replaced the bill. The amendment establishes a season on sea urchin harvesting. For 1993, urchin harvesting is prohibited from June 6th to August 7th, both days inclusive. For 1994 and subsequent years, urchin harvesting is prohibited from May 15th to August 15th, both days inclusive. The amendment also establishes a 2-inch minimum size for sea urchins and requires harvesters to cull their catch on board and immediately liberate undersized sea urchins alive to the marine waters.

The amendment also prohibits the simultaneous possession or transport of sea urchins and lobsters aboard a registered vessel by a person licensed to harvest sea urchins by hand. A handfishing sea urchin license issued after 1993 is established as a resident license and a resident sea urchin boat tender license is created for persons who use their boats as platforms for sea urchin divers but who do not themselves fish for sea urchins. Existing general rule-making powers of the Commissioner of Marine Resources are cited as the commissioner's authority to adopt rules regulating the sea urchin fishery, including regulations affecting drag size and nighttime dragging. This amendment authorizes the commissioner to adopt rules governing the importation and processing of sea urchins.

House amendment "A" (H-380) amends the starting date of the closed season for harvesting sea urchins by adding a statement that indicates the closed season will not start before the Act takes effect.