

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1854

S. P. 782

In Senate, January 9, 1968

Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

JERROLD B. SPEERS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Hoffses of Knox.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-EIGHT

AN ACT to Permit Limited Leasing by the State of Maine of Harvesting Rights  
to Marine Algae.

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

**R. S., T. 1, § 25-A, additional.** Title 1 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 25-A, to read as follows:

§ 25-A. Lease of harvesting marine algae

The power to lease the right to gather and harvest marine algae for the purpose of research, development and commercial production on the submerged lands and reefs within the jurisdiction of the State, seaward of mean low-water mark, and east of 69° 45' west longitude, is vested in the Governor and Council who shall have authority to make leases to such persons and upon such terms and for such length of time, except as otherwise limited, as they may prescribe. No lease shall be executed for a period of over 10 years, but any lease executed may be renewed by the lessee for a further period to be fixed by the parties. The rental to be paid to the State for these rights shall not be less than \$5 per year per square mile of territory covered by said lease and shall be determined by the Governor and Council. The lessee shall file with the Secretary of State a plot showing the location of the territory desired to be leased with the boundaries located thereon.

No lease shall exceed 10 nautical square miles of which the shortest diameter shall be no less than one nautical mile. The rights granted under the lease shall include the marine algae that is physically attached to the solum and the right to harvest the same, but shall not include any rights to any free or cast marine

algae. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the taking of marine algae by the hand-raking harvesting method from the leased area by persons properly licensed by the State of Maine to so harvest, and such right exists in said persons without any prior permission from the said lessee. Prior to the execution of a lease under this section, a survey of the proposed area to be leased shall be made, from which the Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries shall recommend those regulations governing the conservation and management practices that shall be incorporated in the lease.