

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1595

H. P. 1298

House of Representatives, April 2, 1975

On Motion of Mr. Greenlaw of Stonington, referred to Committee on Marine Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Dyer of South Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

**AN ACT Establishing Classes of Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses and
Imposing a Trap Fee.**

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA § 4404, sub-§ 2 is amended to read:

2. License designation; general scope. The license, designated as a lobster and crab fishing license, entitles the holder to take lobsters and crabs when and where it is otherwise lawful to take them and in accordance with the provisions of the applicable license class. The classes of license shall be as follows.

A. Class 1 license. A class 1 license entitles the holder to use up to 600 traps to fish for lobsters and crabs during the entire year. A holder of a class 1 license shall not be entitled to any other license issued by the Department of Marine Resources. The fee per trap shall be 10¢.

B. Class 2 license. A class 2 license entitles the holder to use up to 400 traps to fish for lobsters and crabs. A holder of a class 2 license may fish for lobsters and crabs only during the period from July 1st to October 1st of each year, and shall derive at least $\frac{1}{2}$ of all annual income received from marine fishing from lobster and crab fishing. The fee per trap shall be 10¢.

C. Class 3 license. A class 3 license entitles the holder to use of 300 traps to fish for lobsters and crabs. A holder of a class 3 license may fish for lobsters and crabs only during the period from July 1st to October 1st of each year, and shall derive at least 10% of all annual income received from marine fishing from lobster and crab fishing. The fee per trap shall be 10¢.

D. Class 4 license. A class 4 license entitles persons of 55 years of age or older to use up to 400 traps to fish for lobsters and crabs. A holder of a class 4 license may fish for lobsters and crabs only during the period from July 1st to October 1st of each year. The fee per trap shall be 10¢.

E. Class 5 license. A class 5 license entitles persons from 12 to 18 years of age to use up to 50 traps on a single line to fish for lobsters and crabs. A holder of a class 5 license may fish for lobsters and crabs only during the period from July 1st to October 1st of each calendar year. Any person who is from 12 to 18 years of age may hold only this class of lobster and crab fishing license and no other.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA § 4404, sub-§ 5, is amended to read:

5. License fee. The fee for a lobster and crab fishing license is, in addition to the trap fees set forth in section 2, \$10 which the applicant shall enclose with his application.

FISCAL NOTE

There is no exact record of the number of traps currently in use, but a rough estimate of the number is approximately 1,250,000. Assuming that all traps would be affected by this bill, the revenue brought in by this bill would amount to approximately \$12,500 annually.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill establishes a more flexible system of lobster and crab fishing licensing than presently exists in order to meet the special needs of persons in each of the proposed classes.