

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 2242

H. P. 2079

House of Representatives, February 24, 1976

Reported by Mr. Greenlaw from Committee on Marine Resources pursuant to H. P. 176J. Printed under Joint Rules No. 3.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Filed under Joint Rule 3, Pursuant to H. P. 176I.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SIX

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**AN ACT to Allocate Part of Lobster and Crab Fishing License Fees  
to the Lobster Fund and Boat Fund.**

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

12 MRSA § 4404, sub-§ 6 is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

6. Lobster Fund and Boat Fund. Five dollars of each license fee received for lobster and crab fishing licenses shall be allocated to the Lobster Fund, as heretofore established, and the Boat Fund, herein established as follows:

A. Five dollars of each lobster and crab fishing license fee shall be allocated to the Lobster Fund until the sum of such allocations when added to the unencumbered balance remaining in the fund on the first day of the fiscal year equals \$50,000.

The commissioner may obligate a maximum of \$50,000 in any one fiscal year for the purpose of purchasing seed lobsters from Maine lobster pound owners.

The Lobster Fund shall not lapse. Fees allocated to the fund in any one year and not obligated or expended in that year may be used in the succeeding year.

B. Five dollars of each lobster and crab fishing license fee not allocated to the Lobster Fund shall be allocated to the Boat Fund, as herein established.

The commissioner shall expend the money in the Boat Fund for the purpose of purchasing suitable boats for the use of Maine Coastal Wardens in the performance of their duties.

The Boat Fund shall not lapse. Fees allocated in any year not used in that year may be used in any succeeding year. If the boats purchased replace boats presently owned by the department for the use of Coastal Wardens, funds received from the sale of these boats shall be allocated to the Boat Fund.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill will allocate \$5 of each lobster and crab fishing license fee to the Lobster Fund for the purchase of seed lobsters. This program is to assure the protection of the resource. The Lobster Fund is limited to \$50,000 for this purpose. The Lobster Fund will not purchase unseeded female lobsters. The Boat Fund is established to provide funds for the purchase of boats for Coastal Wardens. Having suitable watercraft will improve Coastal Wardens' enforcement capabilities. This legislation resulted from a study by the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources pursuant to H. P. 1761.