

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1505

H. P. 1280

House of Representatives, April 11, 1977

Referred to the Committee on Marine Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Fowlie of Rockland.

Cosponsor: Mr. Spencer of Standish.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Aid the Maine Seafood Industry.

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA c. 29 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 29

TERMINATION OF STATUTORY PROVISIONS

§ 2501. Repeal of statutory provisions

The following statutory provisions are repealed on the dates set forth in this section.

12. Title 12.

A. Title 12, section 3707 shall be repealed on June 30, 1980.

§ 2502. Committee reports

Any legislative committee having jurisdiction over a statutory provision listed in section 2501 shall prepare and submit to the Legislature, within 30 legislative days after the convening of the last regular session prior to the date set out in section 2501 for repeal of that provision, a report evaluating the advisability of retaining the statutory provision.

§ 2503. Contents of report

A report prepared pursuant to section 2502 shall include:

1. Past effectiveness. An evaluation of the past effectiveness of the statutory provision;
2. Future need. An evaluation of the future need for the statutory provision;
3. Alternative methods. An examination of alternative methods of attaining the purpose of the provision;
4. Cost of retention. An estimate of the cost of retaining the provision; and
5. Recommendation. A recommendation of the committee as to the amendment, repeal, replacement or retention of the provision.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA § 3707 is enacted to read:

§ 3707. Maine Seafood Act

1. Short title. This Act may be referred to as the Maine Seafood Act.
2. Legislative finding and directive. As the Legislature has found that the Maine seafood industry is of significant importance to the economy of the State, the Legislature directs the Department of Marine Resources to undertake a multi-point program to aid that industry.
3. Definition of Maine seafood industry. The term "Maine seafood industry" shall mean the harvesting, procession, delivery and sale of Atlantic Ocean seafood products for human consumption which involves the people of the State or those authorized to do business in this State.
4. Program content. The program shall consist of the following:
 - A. A market survey of the states without coastal boundaries that are east to the Mississippi River to determine those markets in which the Maine seafood industry could successfully compete;
 - B. Consultation with the Maine seafood industry regarding the results of the survey;
 - C. Development, publication and enforcement of high quality standards for Maine seafood products, including type, age, size, freshness and sanitation;
 - D. Development and implementation of a promotional plan to increase the public identity of Maine seafoods. This plan should utilize the print, electronic and film media. It should include participation in seafood trade shows as well as other methods of public communication; and
 - E. An annual report to the Governor and Legislature indicating the progress of this program and any correlation between paragraphs A, B, C and D and any increased productivity and sales of the Maine seafood industry.
5. Legislative review. This section is subject to repeal under Title 1, section 2501. The legislative committee having jurisdiction over the review

provided for in Title 1, section 2502 shall be the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources. The first report required by subsection 4, paragraph E shall be submitted not later than June 30, 1978.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Marine Resources for the fiscal years 1977-78 and 1978-79 the sum of \$100,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1977-78	1978-79
MARINE RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF		
Maine Seafood Program		
All Other	\$50,000	\$50,000

Any balance remaining June 30, 1978 or June 30, 1979 shall not lapse but shall be carried forward into subsequent fiscal years to be expended for the purposes of this Act.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill establishes a relatively inexpensive program to aid the Maine seafood industry by market surveys, development, publication and enforcement of standards for Maine seafood and promotion of Maine seafood. The Maine seafood industry is of especial importance to the State and this bill will help that industry to strengthen itself.