

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE  
4

5 **Legislative Document**

**No. 1922**  
6

7 S. P. 818 In Senate, February 3, 1982  
Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to  
Joint Rule 26.

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

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate  
Presented by Senator Brown of Washington.  
9

10 STATE OF MAINE  
11

12 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
13 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO  
14

15 AN ACT to Prohibit the Molesting of  
16 Fixed Fishing Gear.  
17

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

19 12 MRSA §6526 is enacted to read:

20 §6526. Molesting gear

21 It is unlawful for any person, except a marine patrol  
22 officer, the owner or a person having written permission  
23 from the owner, to intentionally tamper with, move, destroy  
24 or otherwise molest any fixed fishing gear that is set in a  
25 lawful manner.

26 STATEMENT OF FACT

27 Fixed fishing gear, such as stop seines and weirs, is  
28 commonly used for commercial fishing. The equipment is  
29 valuable and may trap thousands of dollars worth of fish at  
30 a time. If the gear is molested or destroyed by passing

1 boaters or other fishermen, it can result in severe economic  
2 losses. This bill prohibits persons from intentionally  
3 molesting or destroying the fixed fishing gear belonging to  
4 another person.

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