

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 158

6
7 H.P. 150

House of Representatives, January 12, 1983

8 Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources. Sent up for
9 concurrence and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Dillenback of Cumberland.

Cosponsors: Senator Clark of Cumberland and Senator Brown of
11 Washington.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT to Establish a Minimum 2-inch
18 Size Limit on Soft Shell Clams.
19

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

22 12 MRSA §6625 is enacted to read:

23 §6625. Minimum size on soft shell clams

24 1. Minimum size. It shall be unlawful to take,
25 possess, ship, transport, buy or sell soft shell
26 clams whose shells are less than 2 inches in the
27 longest diameter.

28 2. Tolerance of 10%. Any person may possess,
29 ship, transport, buy or sell soft shell clams that
30 are more than 1/2 inch and less than 2 inches if they
31 comprise less than 10% of any bulk pile. The 10%
32 tolerance shall be determined by a numerical count of

1 not less than one peck nor more than 5 pecks chosen
2 at random from various parts of the bulk pile. If
3 the lot is less than one peck, the entire lot shall
4 be counted.

5 3. Suspension of size limit. The commissioner
6 may, if he deems it necessary, suspend the applica-
7 tion of the size limit imposed under this section in
8 any area or areas of the State that will not grow
9 2-inch clams.

10 STATEMENT OF FACT

11 This bill established a 2 inch minimum size limit
12 on soft shell clams. This limit will conserve clam
13 resources by reducing the number of immature clams
14 harvested. Clams less than 1/2 inch are exempt to
15 allow handling and transporting of seed clams.

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