

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
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3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
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5 Legislative Document

No. 254

6  
7 H.P. 220

House of Representatives, January 29, 1985

8 Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint  
9 Rule 24.

10 Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered  
printed.

Presented by Representative Crowley of Stockton Springs. EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

11 Cosponsored by Representative Salsbury of Bar Harbor and  
Representative Vose of Eastport.

12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

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

17 AN ACT Concerning the Sale of  
18 Lobster Measures by the State.  
19

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

22 12 MRSA §6431, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 1977, c.  
23 661, §5, is amended to read:

24 3. Double gauge measure; evidentiary value. The  
25 department shall provide the Bureau of Marine Patrol  
26 with state certified double gauge lobster measure for  
27 sale at actual cost measures. The measure shall have  
28 one gauge of 3 3/16 inches and another 5 inches in  
29 length. No measurement, other than by the state's  
30 certified double gauge lobster measure, shall be ad-  
31 missible in any court in the State.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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The Department of Marine Resources currently is required to sell lobster measures to license holders. Enforcement personnel must verify measure accuracy prior to sale which is a time-consuming process which detracts from ongoing duties. There are several private firms which provide measures for sale. The department obtains from those sources and resells the measures. This places the department in competition with industry. Private firms can obtain certification of devices to assure accuracy of each measure, making accurate measures available to industry. This bill removes the requirement that the Department of Marine Resources sell double gauge lobster measures while providing that private industry may sell gauges which can be verified for accuracy under state certified procedures.

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