

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 627

2

(Filing No. H-130 )

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STATE OF MAINE

4

SENATE

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112TH LEGISLATURE

6

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

7

COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P.

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445, L.D. 627, Bill, "AN ACT to Protect Lobster

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Gear."

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Amend the bill by striking out all of that part  
designated "§6443." and inserting in its place the  
following:

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'§6443. Cutting gear prohibited

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It is unlawful to own or operate a vessel in the  
coastal waters of the State when any man-made cutting  
device has been attached to the vessel for the pur-  
pose of keeping its propeller shaft or propeller free  
from lines, weeds or debris, except that a cutting  
device shall be lawful if the device and the  
propeller shaft to which it is attached are enclosed  
by a protective cage. The commissioner shall estab-  
lish, by rule, the minimum design requirements of the  
protective cage.'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of this amendment is to prohibit the  
use of line cutting devices, also known as spurs, on  
the propellers of marine vessels, except where a pro-  
tective cage is also installed around the cutting de-  
vice. Violation of this section is considered a  
Class D crime under the general provisions of marine  
law and is punishable by a fine of up to \$1000 and  
imprisonment for a period of up to one year.

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Reported by the Committee of Conference on L.D. 627  
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