

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 (New Draft of H.P. 1293, L.D. 1810)  
2 SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
3

4 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
5

6 Legislative Document

No. 2194

7  
8 H.P. 1556 House of Representatives, March 17, 1986  
9 Reported by Representative Brannigan from the Committee on Business  
10 and Commerce and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill sponsored by  
11 Representative Scarpino of St. George. Cosponsored by Representative  
Holloway of Edgecomb.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

12  
13 STATE OF MAINE  
14

15 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
16 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SIX  
17

18 AN ACT Concerning the Labeling of Seafood.  
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6111, sub-§1, as enacted by PL  
23 1985, c. 254, is repealed and the following enacted  
24 in its place:

25 1. Surimi. "Surimi" means an intermediate manu-  
26 factured seafood product derived from minced fish  
27 meat, washed to remove water-soluble protein, blood  
28 or other undesirable components and mixed with addi-  
29 tives, containing sugars or sodium, or both, to en-  
30 hance its frozen storage and functional characteris-  
31 tics.

32 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6111, sub-§2, as enacted by PL  
33 1985, c. 254, is repealed.

1           Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6112, as enacted by PL 1985, c.  
2 254, is repealed and the following enacted in its  
3 place:

4       §6112. Labeling of food products containing surimi

5           No food product may be sold in this State con-  
6 sisting of or containing surimi unless the packaging  
7 containing the food product is clearly and conspicu-  
8 ously labeled as "imitation lobster," "imitation  
9 crab," "imitation" followed by the name of the  
10 seafood imitated, "processed seafood," "surimi,"  
11 "lobster-processed seafood salad," "crab-processed  
12 seafood salad" or other terms as approved by the De-  
13 partment of Marine Resources through rules adopted in  
14 accordance with Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II.  
15 Any term approved by that department shall be suffi-  
16 cient to notify the public that the product contains  
17 surimi.

18           Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §6113, as enacted by PL 1985, c.  
19 254, is repealed and the following enacted in its  
20 place:

21       §6113. Serving food containing surimi

22           No food containing surimi or a surimi product may  
23 be served in any eating establishment in the State  
24 whether for consumption on or off the premises, un-  
25 less on the menu and all notices advertising the food  
26 it is clearly and conspicuously labeled as "imitation  
27 lobster," "imitation crab," "imitation" followed by  
28 the name of the seafood imitated, "processed  
29 seafood," "surimi," "lobster-processed seafood  
30 salad," "crab-processed seafood salad" or other terms  
31 as approved by the Department of Marine Resources  
32 through rules adopted in accordance with Title 5,  
33 chapter 375, subchapter II. Any term approved by that  
34 department shall be sufficient to notify the public  
35 that the product contains surimi.

36           Sec. 5. 22 MRSA §2157, sub-§2 is amended to  
37 read:

38           2. Sale under another name. If it is offered for  
39 sale under the name of another food or under a name  
40 not permitted by Title 12, section 6112, for products  
41 containing or consisting of surimi;

1

STATEMENT OF FACT

2           The purpose of this new draft is to clarify the  
3 law pertaining to the labeling of seafood, as did the  
4 original bill. Because the original bill made the law  
5 more complicated, this new draft was written to clar-  
6 ify existing law rather than replace it. Under the  
7 new draft, anyone selling products containing surimi  
8 will be required to label the product by selecting  
9 any one of a list of terms. The list of approved  
10 terms is designed to alert the public that the  
11 product contains a processed seafood, which may con-  
12 tain additives and not pure lobster, crab, other spe-  
13 cific shellfish or groundfish. The new draft adds a  
14 provision allowing the Department of Marine Resources  
15 to add terms to the list through rulemaking.

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