

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 604, L.D. 828, Bill, "An Act Concerning the Regulatory Authority of the Department of Marine Resources"

Amend the bill by adding after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, contaminated marine products and contaminated or polluted water affect the health of people who consume edible marine products; and

Whereas, this legislation extends the authority of the Department of Marine Resources to monitor contamination to ensure the public's health; and

Whereas, the department should begin this extended monitoring program as soon as possible; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6076, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 784, §1, is amended to read:

§6076. Marine Shellfish Toxins Monitoring Program

1. Purpose. A comprehensive ~~Paralytic--Shellfish--Poison~~ Marine Shellfish Toxins Monitoring Program is established to protect the public health while providing for the harvest of

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1 susceptible species of marine mollusks in areas not shown to be
3 affected by contamination.

5 2. Responsibilities. The department shall be the state
7 agency responsible for implementing the program. The department
may adopt rules under section 6172 as may be warranted to provide
for adequate protection of the public health.'

9 Further amend the bill by inserting before the statement of
11 fact the following:

13 'Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.'

15 STATEMENT OF FACT

17 This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency
19 clause and corrects a headnote in the law to make it consistent
with the amended program name. It also clarifies the name of the
21 program which monitors marine toxins in shellfish.

Reported by the Committee on Marine Resources
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House
5/15/89 (Filing No. H-196)