

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "**A**" to H.P. 1703, L.D. 2352, Bill, "An Act to Ensure and Maintain Water Quality"

Amend the bill by striking out all of the title and inserting in its place the following:

**'An Act to Study the Development of Aquaculture in Maine'**

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

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

**Whereas,** the timely completion of the study authorized in this Act requires that the study begin before 90 days have passed; 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,

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

**Sec. 1. Study authorized; purpose.** The Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources shall conduct a study of the aquaculture industry in the State. Aquaculture is a rapidly growing industry with potentially significant effects on the State's environment and economy. The purpose of the study is to review the adequacy of the laws that govern the monitoring and control of the effects of aquaculture on the environment and review state policies on the development of aquaculture.

**Sec. 2. Duties.** The committee's study includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. The environmental effects likely to be associated with aquaculture in this State and the adequacy of laws and rules designed to protect the environment from potential adverse affects, including:

A. The potential effects of net-pen aquaculture on native fish populations;

B. The various roles and the adequacy of state and federal programs that monitor aquaculture projects; and

C. A review of the study by the Department of Marine Resources on environmental monitoring of aquaculture that is scheduled for completion in July, 1990; and

2. The current and potential economic impacts of existing state policy on the aquaculture industry and proposed policies for the further development of the aquaculture industry in the State.

**Sec. 3. Meetings.** The committee shall meet at the call of the chairs. No more than 5 meetings may be held. Two meetings may be public hearings. The committee shall hold its first meeting no later than June 15, 1990.

**Sec. 4. Report.** The committee shall complete its work by November 15, 1990, and present its findings, together with any proposed legislation, by November 30, 1990, to the Office of the Executive Director of the Legislative Council for transmittal to the First Regular Session of the 115th Legislature.

**Sec. 5. Reimbursement.** Members of the committee are entitled to per diem and expenses upon application to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council.

**Sec. 6. Staff.** The committee may request staff assistance from the Legislative Council.

**Sec. 7. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1989-90

**LEGISLATURE**

**Study Commissions - Funding**

Personal Services	\$3,575
All Other	5,750

2 Provides funds for per diem, travel and  
3 related expenses of the Joint Standing  
4 Committee on Marine Resources for the study  
5 of the aquaculture industry. These funds  
6 may not lapse, but must be carried forward.

8 **LEGISLATURE**  
9 **TOTAL**

            
\$9,325

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11 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
12 preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

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**STATEMENT OF FACT**

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17 This amendment deletes the bill and requests a study by the  
18 Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources on the State's  
19 aquaculture industry. The committee regards this study as  
20 essential to adequately educate committee members about this  
21 controversial and significant marine industry and to prepare the  
22 committee to make sound recommendations to the Legislature  
regarding aquaculture.

Reported by the Committee on Marine Resources  
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the  
House  
3/28/90 (Filing No. H-1015)