

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

2
4
6
8
10
12
14
16
18
20
22
24
26
28
30
32
34
36
38
40
42
44
46
48

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
115TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 552, L.D. 789, Bill, "An Act to Improve Grading and Inspection of Maine Sardines"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the emergency clause and inserting in its place the following:

PART A

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §4151, as amended by PL 1985, c. 737, Pt. A, §89, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §4152, as amended by PL 1989, c. 503, Pt. B, §143, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §4155, as amended by PL 1979, c. 62, §2, is repealed.

Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §4156, as amended by PL 1983, c. 85, §1, is repealed.

Sec. 5. 32 MRSA §4157, as amended by PL 1989, c. 639, §1, is repealed.

Sec. 6. 32 MRSA §4157-A, as amended by PL 1989, c. 639, §2, is repealed.

Sec. 7. 32 MRSA §4158 is repealed.

Sec. 8. 32 MRSA §4159, as repealed and replaced by PL 1989, c. 482, §2, is reallocated to 12 MRSA §6547.

PART B

Sec. B-1. 36 MRSA §4691 is repealed.

2 **Sec. B-2. 36 MRSA §4692**, as amended by PL 1985, c. 737, Pt.
A, §101, is repealed.

4 **Sec. B-3. 36 MRSA §4692-A** is enacted to read:

6 §4692-A. Definitions

8 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise
10 indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

12 1. Case. "Case" means either of the following number of
cans of sardines, regardless of the packing medium:

14 A. One hundred cans when the stated net weight of the
contents is under 7 ounces; or

16 B. Forty-eight cans when the stated net weight of the
18 contents is 7 ounces or over.

20 2. Council. "Council" means the Maine Sardine Council
22 established by Title 5, section 12004-H, subsection 8.

24 3. Kippers. "Kippers" means all fillets packed in
hermetically sealed containers that are not classified as
26 sardines but are predominantly herring.

28 4. Packer. "Packer" means any person, partnership,
association, firm, corporation or entity engaged in packing
30 sardines for sale.

32 5. Sardine. "Sardine" means any canned, small size,
clupeoid fish.

34 6. Steaks. "Steaks" means all laterally cut portions
packed in hermetically sealed containers that are not classified
36 as sardines but are predominantly herring.

38 **Sec. B-4. 36 MRSA §4693**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 878, Pt.
A, §109, is repealed.

40 **Sec. B-5. 36 MRSA §4695, 2nd ¶**, as amended by PL 1981, c. 614,
42 §1, is further amended to read:

44 An excise tax of 30¢ ~~35¢~~ per case, ~~as defined in section~~
46 ~~4692,--subsections--1--to--3,~~ is levied and imposed upon the
48 privilege of packing sardines and an excise tax of 15¢ per case
is levied and imposed upon the privilege of packing kippers and
steaks.

50 **Sec. B-6. 36 MRSA §4695, 3rd ¶**, as enacted by PL 1965, c. 332,
52 §5, is amended to read:

2 Sardines which that are packed specifically for export under
Title 32, ~~section 4157-A~~ chapter 61, subchapter II are exempt
4 from this section.

6 **Sec. B-7. 36 MRSA §4697**, as amended by PL 1983, c. 85, §2, is
further amended to read:

8 **§4697. Reports of production and payment of tax**

10 Every packer shall, on or before the 10th day of each month,
report to the State Tax Assessor the quantity of sardines,
12 kippers or steaks packed by ~~him~~ the packer during the preceding
calendar month, on forms furnished by the State Tax Assessor, and
14 pay to the State Tax Assessor the tax of ~~30¢~~ 35¢ per case on all
sardines reported as packed and 15¢ per case on all kippers or
16 steaks reported as packed. If the State Tax Assessor determines
that overpayment of tax has been made, ~~he~~ the State Tax Assessor
18 shall make a refund. In making additional assessment or refund
determinations, the State Tax Assessor shall rely on the records
20 of the ~~Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources~~ Maine
Sardine Council concerning the quantity of sardines, kippers or
22 steaks packed in each sardine plant, for sale and suitable for
human consumption. Any packer may pay to the State Tax Assessor
24 in advance a sum of money based on an estimate of ~~his~~ the
packer's tax for a given number of months, and this sum ~~shall be~~
26 is a credit against future monthly reports of that packer.

28 **Sec. B-8. 36 MRSA §§4698 and 4699**, as amended by PL 1979, c.
731, §19, are further amended to read:

30 **§4698. Inspections**

32 The State Tax Assessor or ~~his~~ a duly authorized agent shall
34 have has authority to enter any place of business of a packer, or
any car, boat, truck or other conveyance in which sardines,
36 kippers or steaks are to be transported, and duly inspect any
books or records of any packer for the purpose of determining
38 what sardines, kippers or steaks are taxable, or for the purpose
of determining the truth or falsity of any statement or return
40 made by any packer, and ~~he shall have~~ the assessor has authority
to delegate such those powers to the ~~Commissioner of Agriculture,~~
42 ~~Food and Rural Resources~~ Maine Sardine Council, ~~his~~ its deputies,
agents, servants or employees, and to the Commissioner of Marine
44 Resources, ~~his~~ or any of the commissioner's deputies, agents,
servant servants or employees.

46 **§4699. Appropriation and use of money received**

48 Money received under this chapter by the Treasurer of State
50 shall must be appropriated and used for the following purposes:

1. **Collection and enforcement.** For the collection of the tax and enforcement of this chapter and Title 32, chapter 61, subchapter II; and

2. **Balance of funds.** The balance in such amounts as shall be are from time to time determined by the Maine Sardine Council:

A. For the purpose of merchandising and advertising Maine sardines, kippers or steaks for food under the direction of the Maine Sardine Council;

B. For conducting research and investigation of methods of propagating and conserving clupeoid fish, particularly the clupea harengus, with a view of improving both the quality and quantity of the same these fish in Maine waters, and for the implementation of all feasible methods of improving, propagating and conserving the same these fish, under the joint direction of the Commissioner of Marine Resources and the Maine Sardine Council; and

C. For gathering, studying, classifying and ~~distributing~~ distributing information and data concerning quality, grades, standards, methods of packing and character of the manufactured sardine, kipper and steak products, in order to determine and improve their quality and aid in merchandising and advertising them under the direction of the Maine Sardine Council. ~~The information and data and the services of the personnel who collect and classify it may be made available to the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources for use in promulgating, establishing and modifying official grades for sardines and for use in assigning and determining grades of sardines and in enforcing applicable provisions of the law.~~

~~D. For transferring funds to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources for helping to finance the inspection of sardines as defined under Title 32, section 4155, when in the opinion of the council such action is necessary for the accomplishment of such inspection. The council has the sole authority to determine when such a need and emergency exists and to fix the amount of sardine tax funds that may be transferred.~~

Sec. B-9. 36 MRSA 4699-A, as amended by PL 1979, c. 541, Pt. A, §229, is further amended to read:

§4699-A. Refund on sardines exported

In the event sardines, kippers and steaks upon which an excise tax has been paid under section 4695 are exported from the United States, the packer who has paid the tax after September 3,

~~1965-shall-be~~ is entitled to a refund of all of such tax upon application to the Maine Sardine Council.

PART C

Sec. C-1. 5 MRSA §12004-H, sub-§8, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 786, §5, is amended to read:

8. Maine Sardine Council	Expenses Only	36-MRSA-§4693 32 MRSA §4167
--------------------------	---------------	--------------------------------

Sec. C-2. 32 MRSA c. 61, first 2 lines are repealed and the following enacted in their place:

CHAPTER 61
SARDINE PACKERS

SUBCHAPTER I
LICENSES

Sec. C-3. 32 MRSA c. 61, sub-c. II is enacted to read:

SUBCHAPTER II
MAINE SARDINE COUNCIL

§4165. Purpose

The packing of sardines is one of the most important industries of the State, and this subchapter will protect the public health and welfare, stabilize the industry and conserve and promote the prosperity and welfare of the State by fostering and promoting better methods of production, packing, merchandising and advertising in the sardine industry of this State.

§4166. Definitions

As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Broken fish. "Broken fish" means any fish that is shattered, belly-blown, or blown or broken from any cause. No fish is free from defects within the meaning of section 4168 that is broken, decomposed, contains foreign material, is unfit for food or is not in good condition from any cause.

2. Case. "Case" means either of the following number of cans of sardines, regardless of the packing medium:

A. One hundred cans when the stated net weight of the contents is under 7 ounces; or

2 B. Forty-eight cans when the stated net weight of the
3 contents is 7 ounces or over.

4
5 3. Cutting. "Cutting" means removing the heads of the fish
6 by some implement or device operated by hand or by machine or
7 mechanical device operated by power. "Cutting" does not mean
8 removing the head of the fish by snipping or pinching with the
9 fingers.

10
11 4. Kippers. "Kippers" means all fillets packed in
12 hermetically sealed containers that are not classified as
13 sardines but are predominantly herring.

14
15 5. Packer. "Packer" means any person, partnership,
16 association, firm, corporation or entity engaged in packing
17 sardines for sale.

18
19 6. Sardine. "Sardine" means any canned, small size,
20 clupeoid fish.

21 7. Steaks. "Steaks" means all laterally cut portions
22 packed in hermetically sealed containers that are not classified
23 as sardines but are predominantly herring.

24
25 §4167. Maine Sardine Council

26
27 1. Council established. The Maine Sardine Council, as
28 established by Title 5, section 12004-H, subsection 8, referred
29 to in this subchapter as the "council," consists of not more than
30 9 nor fewer than 3 members to be appointed by the Commissioner of
31 Marine Resources. Fifty-one percent of the members of the
32 council constitutes a quorum and the affirmative vote of at least
33 51% of the members is necessary for the transaction of all
34 business and the carrying out of the duties of the council. The
35 members must be sardine packers operating within the State who
36 have been actively engaged in packing sardines for not less than
37 2 years and must remain so while in office. A person is
38 considered to be actively engaged in packing sardines if that
39 person has derived, during the period, a substantial portion of
40 income from packing sardines or has been the director or manager
41 of an entity that derives a substantial portion of its income
42 from packing sardines.

43
44 2. Alternates. Each council member may designate one
45 alternate to represent that member as a voting council member
46 during any council meeting that the member can not attend. Each
47 alternate council member must be appointed by the Commissioner of
48 Marine Resources. At no time may both a regular council member
49 and that member's designated alternate vote on any matter that
50 may be before the council during any meeting.

51
52

2 3. Appointments. Regular council member appointments and
3 alternate council member appointments are for terms of 5 years
4 and each member shall serve until a successor is duly appointed
5 and qualified. In the case of a vacancy caused by death,
6 resignation or otherwise, the vacancy must be filled promptly by
7 the Commissioner of Marine Resources for the unexpired period of
8 the term.

9
10 4. Compensation. The members of the council are entitled
11 to compensation according to the provisions of Title 5, chapter
12 379. Each council member's designated alternate is entitled to
13 reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of that
14 alternate's duties, but at no time may a regular council member
15 and that member's designated alternate be reimbursed for expenses
16 incurred for attendance at the same meeting.

17
18 5. Executive director; staff. The council, in concurrence
19 with the Commissioner of Marine Resources, may select and employ
20 and fix the salary of an executive director-advertising and
21 merchandising manager to administer the advertising,
22 merchandising, research and development program. The executive
23 director, with the consent of the council, may engage, subject to
24 the Civil Service Law, sufficient clerical personnel and other
25 employees for the efficient performance of the executive
26 director's duties.

27
28 6. Proceedings. Administrative proceedings of the council
29 must be in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure
30 Act. Meetings and records of the council are subject to Title 1,
31 chapter 13, subchapter I, except that all council records
32 containing tax records filed in accordance with Title 36, section
33 4697, including individual plant pack data; quality control
34 information records compiled pursuant to section Title 36,
35 section 4699, subsection 2, paragraph C; and any other
36 proprietary information obtained from individual processing
37 plants, including information concerning packing technology, are
38 confidential.

39 §4168. Standards

40
41
42 1. General standards. The heads of all fish packed in cans
43 must be removed by cutting. No broken fish may be packed. In
44 packing the following sized cans, these standards must apply.

45 A. For the 1/4 size can:

46
47
48 (1) The minimum count of fish is 4. In cans packed
49 with fewer than 7 fish, the tails must be removed by
50 cutting or must be neatly trimmed; and

2 (2) The feeding device must deliver the packing medium
3 at a rate of not less than 19.66 cubic centimeters per
4 can, if the can will hold that much.

6 B. For the #1 oval can, commonly known as a one pound or
7 15-ounce oval can:

8 (1) The minimum count of fish is 4. In cans packed as
9 a single layer, the tails must be removed by cutting or
10 must be neatly trimmed; and

12 (2) The feeding device must deliver the packing medium
13 at a rate of not less than 2 ounces per can.

14 C. For the 8-ounce oval can:

16 (1) The minimum count of fish is 4. In cans packed as
17 a single layer, the tails must be removed by cutting or
18 must be neatly trimmed; and

20 (2) The feeding device must deliver the packing medium
21 at a rate of not less than one ounce per can.

24 2. Packing mediums. In packing sardines, kippers and
25 steaks, the packing medium must meet the following minimum
26 standards if applicable to the type of packing medium used.

28 A. The vegetable salad oil must be a pure, edible vegetable
29 oil that is clear and thoroughly refined. It must be a
30 deodorized oil free from rancidity and objectionable flavor
31 and must satisfactorily stand the 5-hour cold test,
32 so-called. Its color may not be darker than 7 lovibond
33 units. The oil must have a free fatty acid content of not
34 more than .07% and must retain a satisfactory flavor after
35 heating to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.

36 B. The olive oil must possess a typical greenish to light
37 yellow color and must possess a free fatty acid content,
38 calculated as oleic, of not more than 1.4%. The olive oil
39 must be free of defects and possess a good typical odor and
40 a good typical flavor.

42 C. The tomato sauce used must possess a fairly good red
43 tomato color and must be free of defects and must possess a
44 fairly good tomato puree, tomato pulp flavor. It must have
45 not less than 8.37% salt-free tomato solids and a specific
46 gravity of not less than 1.035.

48 3. Grades. The council may adopt rules establishing
49 official grades for sardines, kippers and steaks packed within
50 the State, and for the marking, branding or labeling of sardines,
51 kippers and steaks and the use of the grades. Prior to adopting
52 official grades for sardines, kippers and steaks packed within

2 rules under this section, the council shall hold public hearings
3 in places reasonably convenient for the packers. Notice of the
4 hearings and of the final action must be sent, by certified mail,
5 to all license holders under section 4153.

6 A. The grades may specify the number of fish per container;
7 the amount, quality and nature of the packing medium or
8 fill; the quality, appearance, odor, character, taste and
9 texture of the fish packed; the style of pack, the quality
10 of the packing and arrangement in the container; the quality
11 of the substances contained in the container; the size and
12 type of the container; and tolerances allowing for
13 reasonable variation from grades.

14 B. When adopting rules under this section, the council may
15 consider packing practices in the State and in other
16 jurisdictions, consumer expectancy, habits and desires, the
17 types of fish available, conditions of sanitation, tastes
18 and preferences of varying parts of the consumer public,
19 marketing practices and market experience.

20 4. Labeling. Sardines packed in accordance with rules
21 adopted under this section may be plainly and conspicuously
22 marked "Maine Sardines." Except as provided in section 4619,
23 sardines packed in a manner inconsistent with rules adopted under
24 this section may not be sold for consumption in the United States
25 unless each can and case is plainly and conspicuously marked with
26 the word "herring" and the word "sardine" does not appear.

27 5. Substandard grade. Except as provided in section 4619,
28 sardines, kippers and steaks that are officially designated as
29 substandard grade, for which a certificate is issued, may not be
30 sold for consumption in the United States unless each can in the
31 lot has the words "Substandard Grade, Good Food - Not High
32 Quality" so placed as to be easily seen when the name of the
33 product or pictorial representation thereof is viewed and appear
34 conspicuously enough to be seen under ordinary conditions of
35 purchase. The words "Substandard Grade, Good Food - Not High
36 Quality" must be printed in 2 lines across the cover of all cans
37 in letters not less than 1/8 inch in height and be enclosed in
38 lines that are not less than 1/32 inch in width. This wording
39 must be printed on all wrappers, labels, cartons or other outer
40 coverings of the cans with a permanent type of indelible ink or
41 by means of other approved procedure. The words "Substandard
42 Grade" must appear in letters not less than one inch high on both
43 ends of the shipping container.

44 6. Embargo. The council or any duly authorized agent of
45 the council shall detain or place an embargo upon sardines,
46 kippers and steaks officially designated as substandard grade for
47 which a certificate is issued by marking or tagging the same and
48 warning all persons not to remove or dispose of the same by sale

2 or otherwise until permission for removal or disposal is given by
3 the council. These sardines, kippers and steaks must be detained
4 or placed under embargo until the goods are marked in accordance
5 with this section or the Maine Sardine Council has received a
6 bond covering the export provisions of this section. Orders for
7 detention or embargo issued under this section are not considered
8 licensing or an adjudicatory proceeding as those terms are
9 defined by Title 5, Part 18.

10 **§4169. Sardines for export; exempt from quantity and quality**
11 **provisions of Maine Sardine Law**

12 Sardines that satisfy the requirements of the Maine Food
13 Law, but not the requirements of the Maine Sardine Law, may be
14 exported by complying with the shipping carton marking and
15 bonding provisions of this section. For the purposes of this
16 section, the term "exported" includes shipments of sardines to
17 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American
18 Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and
19 the trust territory of Palau.

20
21 1. Labels. The cover of each can of sardines that satisfy
22 the requirements of the Maine Food Law but not the requirements
23 of the Maine Sardine Law must be labeled with the name of the
24 packer or distributor. Each shipping carton must be marked
25 plainly and conspicuously with the words "FOR EXPORT" in letters
26 not less than 1/2 inch high.

27
28 2. Detention; embargo. The council or any duly authorized
29 agent of the council shall detain or place an embargo upon
30 sardines as described in subsection 1 by marking or tagging
31 them. Orders for detention or embargo issued under this section
32 are not considered licensing or an adjudicatory proceeding as
33 those terms are defined by the Maine Administrative Procedure
34 Act. The council may not release the sardines from detention or
35 embargo until the packer provides a bond with good and sufficient
36 sureties in an amount not less than twice the value of the
37 sardines, conditioned that the sardines must be exported to a
38 foreign country to be named in the bond and may not be reimported
39 into the United States by any person or in such other amount and
40 upon such other conditions as may be established by the executive
41 director. If the packer is regularly engaged in the business of
42 exporting sardines, the packer may provide one bond in the amount
43 of \$10,000 to cover all such exports, conditioned that the
44 sardines must be exported to a foreign country and may not be
45 reimported to the United States by any person and that the packer
46 must inform the executive director of the value and the foreign
47 country of destination of each shipment in writing prior to
48 release of the embargo and provide any additional documentary
49 evidence the executive director may require within 45 days of the
50 date of the shipment. A packer is deemed to be regularly engaged

2 in the business of exporting sardines if the packer makes 2 or
more shipments in any one year.

4 3. Military procurement. Shipments to United States
6 military procurement agencies of sardines that do not meet market
requirements within the United States, its territories and
8 possessions as specified by the Maine Sardine Law are not deemed
to be exported to a foreign country.

10 §4170. Cans to be sealed; lined

12 On all cans used for packing sardines there must be a
compound lined gasket or other adequate gasket that will
14 hermetically seal the container. All cans used for packing
sardines must be enamel lined.

18 PART D

20 **Sec. D-1. Transition.** The following rules of transition apply
22 to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and
the Maine Sardine Council.

24 **1. Rules.** Rules adopted by the department under the Maine
26 Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 61 remain in effect until
modified or repealed through rules adopted by the council
pursuant to its authority under this Act.

28 **2. Unexpended balances; transfer of funds.** Effective July
30 1, 1991 all unexpended money in the department's dedicated
32 account, #014-01A-0289-01, is transferred to the council's
dedicated account, #014-945-0254-01. The council may use funds
34 transferred under this subsection only for costs authorized under
Title 32, chapter 61, subchapter II. After the effective date of
36 this Act and prior to July 1, 1991, the department may use funds
in the dedicated account for salary and overhead costs for
38 existing sardine inspectors and any costs, including accrued
vacation, that are payable upon termination of those employees.

40 **3. Membership on the council.** Members serving on the
42 council on the effective date of this Act shall continue to serve
the terms for which they were appointed.

44 **Sec. D-2. Allocation.** The following funds are allocated from
46 Other Special Revenue funds to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1991-92 1992-93

48 AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL
50 RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF

Bureau of Public Services

2			
	Positions	(-11.0)	(-11.0)
4	Personal Services	(\$277,675)	(\$287,286)
	All Other	(119,618)	(127,106)
6			
	Total	<u>(\$397,293)</u>	<u>(\$414,392)</u>

8
 10 Provides for the deallocation
 of funds for the elimination
 12 of 2 Sardine Inspector
 Supervisor positions, 6 Food
 14 Inspector II positions, one
 Food Inspector Supervisor
 16 position, 2 Sardine Quality
 Grader positions and
 18 associated general operating
 expenses.

20 Maine Sardine Council

22	Positions	(1.0)	(1.0)
	Personal Services	\$27,343	\$29,440
24	All Other	3,000	3,000
26			
	Total	<u>\$30,343</u>	<u>\$32,440</u>

28 Provides funds for a Sardine
 30 Quality Grader Supervisor
 position and general
 32 operating expenses to grade
 sardines, kippers and steaks.

**34 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
 36 FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES
 TOTAL**

<u>(\$366,950)</u>	<u>(\$381,952)</u>
--------------------	--------------------

38 **Sec. D-3. Effective date.** Section D-2 of this Act is effective
 40 on July 1, 1991.

FISCAL NOTE

44 This bill increases the sardine tax from 30¢ to 35¢ per case
 46 and imposes a 15¢ per case tax on kippers and steaks. These
 provisions will increase dedicated revenue to the Maine Sardine
 48 Council in the amount of \$65,000 annually and will require an
 allocation to the council of \$30,343 for fiscal year 1991-92 and
 50 \$32,440 for fiscal year 1992-93 to provide funds for a Sardine
 Quality Grader Supervisor to grade sardines, kippers and steaks.
 52 This bill will also eliminate the inspection fee currently
 assessed to the sardine industry for the sardine inspection

2 program. This proposal will result in a loss of dedicated
4 revenue to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural
6 Resources of \$384,000 for fiscal year 1991-92 and \$411,000 for
8 fiscal year 1992-93 and require deallocations to the Department
10 of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources of \$397,293 for fiscal
12 year 1991-92 and \$414,392 for fiscal year 1992-93 that include
14 the elimination of 11 positions.'

16
18
20
22
24
26
28
30
32

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment removes the
Maine Sardine Council from the Department of Agriculture, Food
and Rural Resources and establishes it as an independent
council. The amendment increases the sardine packing tax from
30¢ to 35¢ per case, creates a 15¢ per case tax on packing
kippers and steaks and consolidates the Maine Sardine Council's
enabling legislation as the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32,
chapter 61, subchapter II. The amendment also adds transition
language to the bill that allows the Department of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Resources to retain unexpended balances in the
sardine inspection fund until July 1, 1991 in order to pay the
salaries of existing sardine inspectors employed by the
department through the end of the fiscal year. On July 1, 1991
the existing sardine inspector positions at the department are
eliminated and all remaining unexpended balances in the dedicated
account transfer to the Maine Sardine Council to be used for the
sardine, kipper and steak grading programs.

The amendment also adds an appropriation section and a
fiscal note to the bill.

Reported by the Committee on Marine Resources
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the
House
(6/6/91) (Filing No. H-584)