

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

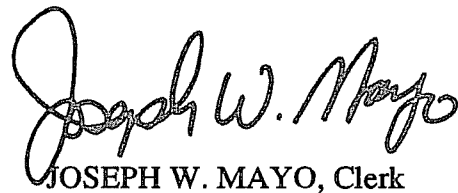
No. 158

H.P. 117

House of Representatives, January 26, 1993

An Act to Change the Scallop Harvesting Season.

Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative LOOK of Jonesboro.

Cosponsored by Representatives FARREN of Cherryfield, HEINO of Boothbay,
TOWNSEND of Eastport, Senator VOSE of Washington.

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

2
4 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6701, sub-§§6 and 7 are enacted to read:

6 6. Proximity to dragging. A person may not take scallops
by hand in any area in which a boat is engaged in dragging
activities.

8
10 7. Boats and markers. A boat used by a person engaged in
taking scallops by hand must be anchored in a fixed position
during the time the scallops are being harvested. A diver's down
12 flag must be displayed at all times during the taking of scallops
by hand. For the purpose of this section, a "diver's down" flag
14 means a red flag measuring at least 12 by 15 inches with a white
diagonal stripe.

16 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6722, as amended by PL 1983, c. 685, is
18 further amended to read:

20 **§6722. Closed areas**

22 From May 1st to November 30th, both days inclusive, it is
unlawful to fish for or take scallops in coastal waters east of a
24 line running due south from Naskeag Point located in the Town of
Brooklin. Unless modified by regulation adopted under section
26 6171-A, it is unlawful to fish for or take scallops in the any
other coastal waters from April 16th to October 31st, both days
28 inclusive.

30 Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6726 is enacted to read:

32 **§6726. Scallop drag limit**

34 A person may not fish for or take scallops with any drag or
combination of drags more than 5 feet, 6 inches in width,
36 measured from the extreme outside edges of the mouth of the drag
or drags.

40 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

42 This bill establishes December 1st through April 30th as the
fixed season for scallop harvesting in coastal waters east of
44 Penobscot Bay. The bill also establishes a 5 1/2 foot limit on
the size of scallop drags and prohibits diving for scallops in
46 areas where scallop dragging is underway. The bill also requires
divers to anchor their boats in a fixed position and display a
48 "driver's down" flag while harvesting scallops by hand.