

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

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Legislative Document

No. 961

H.P. 710

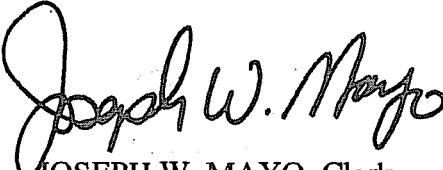
House of Representatives, March 22, 1993

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**An Act to Allow the Commissioner of Conservation to Adopt Rules That Encourage Conservation of Shore Plants.**

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Reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative TOWNSEND of Eastport.  
Cosponsored by Representative: HOLT of Bath, Senator: VOSE of Washington.

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

4 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA c. 432 is enacted to read:

6 **CHAPTER 432**

8 **MAINE SHORE PLANT CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

10 **§5251. Definitions**

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

14 1. Coastal sand dune systems. "Coastal sand dune systems" has the same meaning as in Title 38, section 480-B, subsection 1.

16 2. Coastal wetlands. "Coastal wetlands" has the same meaning as in Title 38, section 480-B, subsection 2.

18 3. Endangered plant species. "Endangered plant species" means an endangered plant species identified pursuant to Title 5, section 3315.

20 4. Shore plant. "Shore plant" means any plant of an endangered or threatened plant species that grows in coastal sand dune systems or coastal wetlands and any plant of the plant species Limonium, commonly called sea lavender.

22 5. Threatened plant species. "Threatened plant species" means a threatened plant species identified pursuant to Title 5, section 3315.

24 **§5252. Declaration of purpose**

26 The Legislature finds that shore plants are being harvested for commercial and personal uses in ways that kill individual plants and diminish shore plant populations along the State's coast. The Legislature further finds that shore plants are part of the State's natural heritage. The Legislature declares that it is the policy of the State to conserve shore plants.

28 **§5253. Conservation of shore plants**

30 1. Killing of shore plants prohibited. The harvesting of a shore plant in a manner that kills the plant is prohibited in coastal sand dune systems and coastal wetlands.

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2. Harvesting methods for shore plants. A person may harvest a shore plant in coastal sand dune systems and coastal wetlands when the harvesting is performed in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner. The rules must prescribe a harvesting method that ensures the continued existence of the plant.

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### STATEMENT OF FACT

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This bill prohibits the killing of certain plant species in coastal sand dune systems and coastal wetlands. It allows the harvesting of portions of certain plant species in these areas in accordance with rules adopted by the Commissioner of Conservation that prescribe harvesting methods that ensure the continued existence of the plants.