



117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 988

S.P. 362

In Senate, March 28, 1995

Resolve, to Direct the Commissioner of Marine Resources to Investigate Controlling Marine Predators Inhibiting Shellfish Farming.

(EMERGENCY)

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

May Th. LA-

MAY M. ROSS Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock. Cosponsored by Representatives: BIGL of Bucksport, ETNIER of Harpswell, RICE of South Bristol. **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** Acts and resolves of the 2 Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

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Whereas, shellfish farming is an important economic sector of the State's marine resources industry; and

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Whereas, certain marine predators seriously inhibit shellfish farming operations; and

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Whereas, the Department of Marine Resources has tested 12 substances that may be used to deter these marine predators without posing a major threat to the environment; and

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Whereas, the Department of Environmental Protection's classification of aquatic pesticides may prevent the development of a nonhazardous solution to the control of these predators; and 18

Whereas, there is an urgent need for the Commissioner of 20 Marine Resources to work with the Commissioner of Environmental Protection towards an effective policy to assist shellfish 22 farmers to control marine predators; and

24 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of 26 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and 28 safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Investigate use of appropriate measures. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Marine Resources shall investigate the use of appropriate measures, including quicklime, to reduce the predation of cultured shellfish by starfish and report the findings of this investigation to the Legislature by October 1, 1995.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the 38 preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to 44 investigate appropriate measures to reduce the predation of cultured shellfish by starfish and report the findings of the 46 investigation to the Legislature.