

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1310

H.P. 929

House of Representatives, April 12, 1995

An Act Concerning Inspection at Sea.

Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 24.
Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BIGL of Bucksport.
Cosponsored by Representative: PINKHAM of Lamoine.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6351, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 661, §5, is amended to read:

§6351. Suspension based on conviction

Any ~~A~~ conviction for a violation of a marine resources' law ~~shall be, a violation of Title 17-A, chapter 31 or a criminal offense against a marine patrol officer while that officer is engaged in the performance of official duty is~~ grounds for suspension of any licenses or certificates issued under this Part. In order to suspend a license or certificate because of a conviction, the commissioner ~~shall~~ must follow the procedures of this Article.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Current law provides that operators of boats must stop for a marine patrol officer when signaled to do so. Conduct of the operator once stopped is governed by state law, which governs execution of general law enforcement. Marine patrol officers have experienced circumstances when physical interference approaching violence was experienced while conducting inspection. This bill makes it grounds for suspension of the fisheries license if the license holder is convicted of a crime against a marine patrol officer.