

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

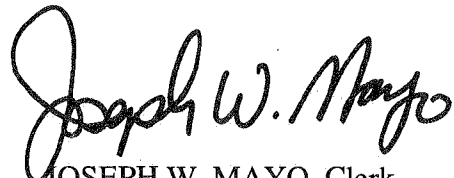
No. 311

H.P. 247

House of Representatives, January 23, 1997

An Act to Establish the Status of New Fisheries.

Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative ETNIER of Harpswell.

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

4 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6175 is enacted to read:

6 **§6175. Registry of fisheries**

8 **1. Registry established.** The commissioner shall establish
10 by rule a registry of fisheries that are open and licensed for
12 fishing under current statute and rules. An opened and licensed
fishery is any fishery for which there was a reported landed
value in 1995 of more than \$1,000. A fishery not on the registry
may be added to the registry once a management program is adopted.

14 **2. Fishing from open fisheries only.** It is unlawful to
16 fish for, land, possess, ship or transport any marine species
from a fishery not identified as an open fishery in the registry.

18 **3. Special license.** The commissioner may issue a special
20 license under section 6074 to participate in an experimental
fishery for any species not identified in the registry of open
22 fisheries. The commissioner may adopt by rule the requirements
for participation in an experimental fishery.

24 **4. Minor technical rules.** Rules adopted pursuant to this
26 section are minor technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter
375, subchapter II-A.

28 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill requires all fisheries that are actively being
32 fished to be identified in a registry. Those fisheries not on
34 the registry are closed to fishing until a management program is
established. The bill gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries
36 and Wildlife the authority to allow participation in experimental
fisheries for species not on the registry.