

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MAJORITY  
MARINE RESOURCES

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
118TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 536, L.D. 727, Bill, "An Act to Change the Membership of the Lobster Advisory Council"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1 and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§58, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 786, §5, is amended to read:

58.	Lobster	Expenses	12 MRSA
Marine	Advisory	Only	§6462
Resources:	Council		§6462-A
Industry			

A. Total Expenses for the council shall may not exceed \$2,500 per year.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6462, as amended by PL 1989, c. 503, Pt. B, §63, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6462-A is enacted to read:

§6462-A. Lobster Advisory Council

1. Appointment; composition. The Lobster Advisory Council, established by Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 58 and in this subchapter known as the "council," consists of the following members:

2 A. One person from each lobster management policy council  
4 established under section 6447. Each lobster management  
6 policy council shall choose by majority vote a member to  
8 serve on the council;

10 B. Two persons who hold wholesale seafood licenses and are  
12 primarily dealers in lobsters, appointed by the commissioner;

14 C. One person who is a member of the general public and  
16 does not hold any license under this subchapter, appointed  
18 by the commissioner; and

20 D. Three persons who hold lobster and crab fishing licenses  
22 and who are not members of lobster management policy  
24 councils established under section 6447, appointed by the  
26 commissioner. Each person appointed under this paragraph  
28 must reside in a different county.

30 2. Term. Members serve for terms of 3 years, except that a  
32 vacancy must be filled by the commissioner for the unexpired  
34 portion of the term. Members continue to serve until their  
36 successors are appointed.

38 3. Compensation. Members are entitled to compensation  
40 according to Title 5, chapter 379.

42 4. Quorum. A quorum is a majority of the members of the  
44 council, at least 4 of whom must be lobster and crab fishing  
46 license holders.

48 5. Chair and officers. The council shall annually choose  
50 one of its members to serve as chair for a one-year term. The  
council may select other officers and designate their duties.

6. Meetings. The council shall meet at least 4 times a year  
at regular intervals. It may also meet at other times at the call  
of the chair or the commissioner.'

Further amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

**'Sec. 3. Transition provisions.** The terms of the Lobster Advisory Council members who were appointed under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, former section 6462, subsection 1, paragraph A expire on the effective date of this Act. The terms of the Lobster Advisory Council members who were appointed under Title 12, former section 6462, subsection 1, paragraphs B and C continue until 3 years from the date of their most recent appointment to the Lobster Advisory Council.'

Further amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

#### FISCAL NOTE

The Department of Marine Resources will incur some minor additional costs to reimburse additional members of the Lobster Advisory Council. These costs can be absorbed within the department's existing budgeted resources.'

#### SUMMARY

This amendment changes the membership of the Lobster Advisory Council. It replaces the 8 county members of the council with members who are members of lobster management policy councils. It also adds 3 members to the council who hold lobster and crab fishing licenses, but who are not members of a lobster management policy council.