MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 727

H.P. 536

House of Representatives, February 4, 1997

An Act to Change the Membership of the Lobster Advisory Council.

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

SEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative ETNIER of Harpswell. Cosponsored by Representatives: HONEY of Boothbay, VOLENIK of Brooklin.

2	C. 1 10 MDCA 9/4/2
4	Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6462, as amended by PL 1989, c. 503, Pt. B, §63, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:
6	§6462. Lobster Advisory Council
8	1. Appointment; composition. The Lobster Advisory Council, established by Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 58 and in
10	this subchapter known as the "council," consists of the following members:
12) The chair of each labeter management relies according
14	A. The chair of each lobster management policy council established under section 6447:
16 18	B. Two persons who hold wholesale seafood licenses and are primarily dealers in lobsters, appointed by the commissioner; and
10	COMMITS STONET / CITC
20	C. One person who is a member of the general public and does not hold any license under this subchapter, appointed
22	by the commissioner.
24	2. Term. A member who is a chair of a lobster management policy council serves until that person is no longer the chair of
26	that lobster management policy council. The members appointed under subsection 1, paragraph B and C are appointed to terms of 3
28	years, except that a vacancy must be filled by the commissioner for the unexpired portion of the term. Members appointed under
30	subsection 1, paragraphs B and C continue to serve until their successors are appointed.
32	
34	3. Compensation. Members are entitled to compensation according to Title 5, chapter 379.
36	4. Quorum. A quorum is a majority of the members of the council, at least 4 of whom must be lobster and crab fishing
38	license holders.
40	5. Chair and officers. The council shall annually choose one of its members to serve as chair for a one-year term. The
42	council may select other officers and designate their duties.
44	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
46	of the chair or the commissioner.
48	Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6463, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

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

3. Dispute resolution. The council may consider disputed issues brought to the council by any lobster management policy council established under section 6447. The council may make recommendations to the commissioner with regard to resolving such issues.

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SUMMARY

This bill changes the membership of the Lobster Advisory Council to reflect recent changes in lobster management policy.

Current law appoints members to the council based on county residence. The bill appoints the chairs of each of the lobster management policy councils that were established by the Commissioner of Marine Resources. The bill also provides that the council may engage in dispute resolution of issues affecting lobster management policy councils.