

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

---

Legislative Document

No. 773

---

H.P. 582

House of Representatives, February 4, 1997

**An Act to Study a Marine Ecological Reserves Designation in State Coastal Waters.**

---

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 CHARTRAND of Rockland. (By Request)  
Cosponsored by Senator LaFOUNTAIN of York and  
Representatives: QUINT of Portland, SHIAH of Bowdoinham, SKOGLUND of St. George.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA c. 606, sub-c. II** is enacted to read:

6 **SUBCHAPTER II**

8 **ECOLOGICAL MARINE RESERVES RESEARCH**

10 **§6142. Ecological marine reserves research study**

12 **1. Research.** The marine ecological reserves research study  
14 must include investigations of habitat requirements of  
16 commercially desirable finfishes and shellfishes in state waters  
18 and delineation of potential representative marine reserve sites  
20 in state waters. Specific attention must be paid to research on  
22 the advisability of establishing nonextractive marine reserves in  
24 state waters.

26 **2. Cooperation.** The commissioner shall cooperatively  
28 develop and coordinate the marine ecological reserves research  
30 study with the Marine Resources Advisory Council, the University  
32 of Maine, the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment and  
34 other institutions and organizations that the commissioner  
36 determines appropriate.

38 **3. Report.** The commissioner shall include a report as to  
40 the advisability of creating marine ecological reserves in  
coastal waters in the department's biennial report to the  
Legislature.

**4. Funding.** The commissioner shall seek funding through  
the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment and other  
sources to carry out this study.

**SUMMARY**

This bill directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to establish a study of ecological marine reserves in state waters and to seek funding for the study from the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment and other sources.