

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 1235

S.P. 376

In Senate, February 25, 1997

**Resolve, to Convene a Study Group to Identify Access to Public Landings and Their Facilities by Persons Engaged in Commercial Fishing.**

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Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President LAWRENCE of York.  
Cosponsored by Representative: WHEELER of Eliot.

2           **Sec. 1. Study group. Resolved:** That the Department of  
3 Conservation, referred to in this resolve as the "department,"  
4 shall, within existing budgeted resources, convene a study group  
5 to assist the department in a study to identify ways to preserve  
6 and enhance access to public boat landings and associated  
7 facilities by persons engaged in commercial fishing.  
8 Specifically, the scope of the study includes, but is not limited  
9 to:

10           1. An examination and report on the access of persons who  
11 fish commercially to saltwater public landings in the State;

12           2. An examination and report on the funding sources that  
13 have been utilized for saltwater public landings in the State and  
14 the obligations and limitations on use imposed by those sources;

15           3. An inventory of saltwater public landings in the State;  
16 and

17           4. The development of a statewide strategy to ensure access  
18 to saltwater public landings for persons who have small  
19 commercial fishing businesses in the State; and be it further

20           **Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved:** That the study group consists  
21 of the following members:

22           1. One person who fishes commercially for shellfish,  
23 appointed by the President of the Senate;

24           2. One representative of the Maine Aquaculture Association,  
25 appointed by the President of the Senate;

26           3. One person who fishes commercially for lobsters and one  
27 person who fishes commercially for finfish appointed by the  
28 Speaker of the House;

29           4. One representative of municipal government, appointed by  
30 the Governor; and

31           5. One representative of the Department of Marine  
32 Resources, appointed by the Governor.

33           The study group shall, at its first meeting, select a member  
34 to serve as chair; and be it further

35           **Sec. 3. Appointments. Resolved:** That all appointments must be  
36 made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this  
37 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the  
38 Commissioner of Conservation upon making their appointments.  
39 When the appointment of all members is complete, the department

2 shall call and convene the first meeting of the study group no  
later than 60 days from the effective date of this resolve; and  
be it further

4  
6 **Sec. 4. Reimbursement. Resolved:** That the members of the  
study group serve without compensation; and be it further

8 **Sec. 5. Report. Resolved:** That the department shall issue and  
submit a report including any recommended legislation based upon  
10 the findings and recommendations of the study group to the 119th  
Legislature by December 15, 1998.

12  
14 **SUMMARY**

16 This resolve directs the Department of Conservation to  
convene a study group to assist the department in conducting a  
18 study to identify ways of preserving and enhancing access to  
public boat landings and associated facilities by persons engaged  
20 in commercial fishing in light of the increasing pressure to  
limit those areas to recreational use only in many  
22 municipalities. The study group consists of persons who fish  
commercially, a representative of the Maine Aquaculture  
24 Association, a representative of municipal government and a  
representative of the Department of Marine Resources.