

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1998

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Legislative Document

No. 2226

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H.P. 1597

House of Representatives, February 23, 1998

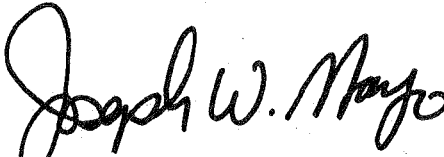
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### **An Act to Limit New Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses.**

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Reported by Representative ETNIER for the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources pursuant to Public Law 1997, chapter 250, section 9.

Reference to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources suggested and printing ordered under Joint Rule 218.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6421-A is enacted to read:**

6 **§6421-A. Moratorium on new licenses**

8 1. Moratorium. Notwithstanding section 6421, subsection 5,  
10 the commissioner may not issue a Class I, Class II or Class III  
12 lobster and crab fishing license to a person between the  
14 effective date of this section and December 31, 1999 unless that  
16 person:

18 A. Possessed a Class I, Class II or Class III lobster and  
20 crab fishing license in the previous calendar year;

22 B. Possessed an apprentice lobster and crab fishing license  
24 issued prior to February 13, 1998 and meets the requirements  
26 of the apprentice program under section 6422; or

28 C. Did not possess a Class I, Class II or Class III lobster  
30 and crab fishing license in the previous calendar year  
32 because the commissioner had suspended the person's license  
34 privileges for a length of time that included that previous  
36 calendar year.

38 2. Repeal. This section is repealed January 1, 2000.

**SUMMARY**

32 This bill enacts a moratorium on commercial lobster and crab  
34 fishing licenses. It provides that until December 31, 1999  
36 commercial lobster and crab fishing licenses may only be issued  
38 to a person who held a license in the previous calendar year, who  
possessed an apprentice lobster and crab fishing license issued  
prior to February 13, 1998 and meets the requirements of the  
apprentice program or who did not possess a commercial lobster  
and crab fishing license in the previous calendar year because of  
a license suspension.