

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1345

H.P. 948

House of Representatives, February 16, 1999

**An Act to Allow Student License Holders to Become Eligible for
Commercial Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses.**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative ETNIER of Harpswell.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAGLEY of Machias, HONEY of Boothbay, LEMONT of
Kittery, VOLENIK of Brooklin.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6421, sub-§5-A**, as amended by PL 1995, c.
5 568, §1, is further amended to read:

6 **5-A. Student license eligibility.** A student license may
7 only be issued to a person who, at the time of application, is a
8 full-time student not more than 22 years of age. For the
9 purposes of this subsection, "full-time student" means "student"
10 as defined in Title 39-A, section 102, subsection 8, paragraph
11 C. To be eligible for a student license, the full-time student
12 must pass a basic examination given by the department.

13 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6422, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 568,
14 §2, is further amended to read:

15 **1. Program established; experience component.** By July 1,
16 1996, the commissioner shall establish by rule an apprentice
17 program for entry into the lobster fishery. The program must
18 include practical lobster fishing experience. A person must hold
19 an apprentice lobster and crab fishing license or a student
20 lobster and crab fishing license under section 6421 to enter the
21 program.
22

23 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6422, sub-§4, ¶B**, as amended by PL 1997, c.
24 574, §2, is further amended to read:

25 B. Documents to the commissioner that the person obtained
26 practical lobster fishing experience as a holder of a
27 student license issued under section 6421. This paragraph
28 is repealed on December 31, 2001; or
29

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31
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33 **SUMMARY**

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35 This bill accomplishes the following.

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37 1. It specifies that to be eligible for a student lobster
38 and crab fishing license, the individual must pass an examination.

39
40 2. It specifies that in order to enter the lobster
41 apprenticeship program, an individual must have either an
42 apprentice license or a student license.
43

44
45 3. It specifies that an applicant for the lobster
46 apprenticeship program may have part of the practical lobster
47 fishing experience requirement waived based on that person's
48 experience as a holder of a student license.