



119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1502

S.P. 501

In Senate, February 25, 1999 Resolve, to Study the Changes in Lobster Morbidity and Mortality.

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock. Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox, Representative: PIEH of Bremen. Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and 4

6 morbidity and mortality, particularly in pounded lobster; and

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Whereas, the source of the increased morbidity and mortality has not been determined; and

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Whereas, the lobster fishery has the highest landed value of Maine fisheries; and

Whereas, the fishery provides a large employment base, including some of the areas of highest unemployment in the State;
and

18 Whereas, the tourist industry is heavily dependent on a reliable supply of high-quality lobster; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Study. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Marine Resources solicit, through the Fish Health Advisory Group or its designee, a request for proposal to study the increase in lobster morbidity and mortality, and that funding in the amount of \$100,000 be provided to an investigator or investigators based on scientific peer review of the responses to the RFP, and that additional funding sources may be sought to supplement the appropriation; and be it further

36 Sec. 2. Appropriation. Resolved: That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

1999-00

\$100,000

42 MARINE RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF

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Study Commission - Funding

All Other

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AII Other

Provides funds for an investigator or

2	investigators to study the changes in lobster morbidity and mortality.
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4	Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.
6	preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.
8	SUMMARY
10	This resolve directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to
12	solicit through a request for proposal to provide for investigators to study the changes in lobster morbidity and
	mortality. This resolve also appropriates \$100,000 for the
14	investigators to perform their study.

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