

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1549

H.P. 1102

House of Representatives, February 25, 1999

**An Act to Protect the Riparian Rights of Owners of Rockweed, Seaweed
and Other Assets on Intertidal Land.**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GOODWIN of Pembroke.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §7552, sub-§1, ¶C-1** is enacted to read:

4 C-1. "Marine-related property" means seaweed, rockweed,
6 marine vegetation, stones, gravel, ore or property of any
8 kind on intertidal land.

10 **Sec. 2. 14 MRSA §7552, sub-§2, ¶A**, as amended by PL 1995, c.
585, §3, is further amended to read:

12 A. Cut down, destroy, damage or carry away any forest
14 product, ornamental or fruit tree, agricultural
16 product, stones, gravel, ore, goods or property of any
18 kind from land not that person's own; e:

20 **Sec. 3. 14 MRSA §7552, sub-§2, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 1995, c.
450, §2, is amended to read:

22 C. Disturb, remove or destroy any lawfully established
24 transit point, reference point, stake, plug, hub,
26 guardstake, bench mark, pipe, iron, concrete post, stone
28 post or other monument of any railroad, highway, public
30 utility or other engineering location or survey or any such
32 monument marking the bounds of public or private property;
34 or

36 **Sec. 4. 14 MRSA §7552, sub-§2, ¶D** is enacted to read:

38 D. Cut down, harvest, destroy, injure or carry away any
40 marine-related property from intertidal land not that
42 person's own.

44 **Sec. 5. 14 MRSA §7552, sub-§3, ¶D** is enacted to read:

46 D. When marine-related property has been cut down,
48 harvested, destroyed, injured or carried away, the owner may
50 recover as damages the value of the lost property.

52 **Sec. 6. 14 MRSA §7552, sub-§4, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 1995, c.
585, §3, is amended to read:

54 C. In addition to the damages recoverable under paragraphs
56 A and, B or D, a person who violates subsection 2 is also
58 liable to the owner for the costs the owner may incur if the
60 violation results in a violation of any federal, state or
62 local law or ordinance and, as a result, the owner becomes
64 the subject of an enforcement proceeding. These costs
66 include attorney's fees, costs and the value of the owner's
68 time spent on involvement in the enforcement proceeding.

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SUMMARY

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6 This bill prohibits cutting down, harvesting, destroying,
injuring or carrying away seaweed, rockweed, marine vegetation,
stones, gravel, ore or property of any kind on intertidal land
8 without the permission of the owner.