

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 2198

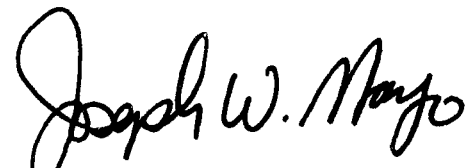
H.P. 1544

House of Representatives, April 14, 1999

**An Act to Fund the Costs Associated with Determining Eligibility for
Certain Marine Resources Licenses.**

Reported by Representative ETNIER for the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources pursuant to Public Law 1997, chapter 693, section 2.

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


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6431-C, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1995, c.
4 468, §5, is amended to read:

6 2. **Purpose.** All money credited to the Lobster Management
8 Fund must be used to cover the costs of trap tags and the
10 administration and enforcement of a lobster trap tag system under
12 section 6431-B and, the costs associated with lobster management
14 policy councils and referenda pursuant to section 6447 and the
16 costs associated with determining eligibility for lobster and
18 crab fishing licenses and eligibility to fish for or take
20 lobsters from a vessel.

22 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6505-D, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1995, c.
24 536, Pt. A, §8, is amended to read:

26 2. **Permissible uses.** The commissioner may use the fund in
28 accordance with a plan required under subsection 3 to research
30 and manage the State's eel and elver resources and, to enforce
32 the laws related to eels and elvers and to cover the costs
34 associated with determining eligibility for elver fishing
36 licenses.

38 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6749-R, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1997, c.
40 685, §6, is further amended to read:

42 1. **Uses of the fund.** The commissioner shall use the fund
44 for research directly related to sea urchin fishery management
46 information needs and for reporting to licensed sea urchin
48 harvesters, boat tenders, processors and buyers on the results of
50 research and the use of fund revenues. The purpose of that
52 research must be to determine, with the highest reliability
possible given available resources, the greatest level of effort
that may be applied to the sea urchin fishery without harming the
long-term economic and biological sustainability of the sea
urchin fishery. The commissioner shall consult with the Sea
Urchin Zone Council under section 6749-X before deciding upon
research projects and awarding grants from the fund. The fund
may also be used to cover the costs associated with determining
eligibility for licenses under this subchapter and for personnel
services for enforcement. Up to 30% of allotted revenues may be
used for personnel services for enforcement purposes.

46 **SUMMARY**

48 This bill authorizes the use of money in the Lobster
50 Management Fund, the Eel and Elver Management Fund and the Sea
52 Urchin Research Fund to fund costs associated with determining
eligibility to participate in the lobster fishery, the elver
fishery and the sea urchin fishery.