

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MARINE RESOURCES

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 301, L.D. 379, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Lobster Fishing Owner and Operator Laws to Allow Limited Charter Vessel Operation"

Amend the bill in section 2 by striking out all of paragraph E and inserting in its place the following:

'E. The person is licensed by the United States Coast Guard to operate a passenger-carrying vessel in coastal waters. The vessel must be inspected by the United States Coast Guard and documented and licensed by the United States Coast Guard to carry passengers. By June 30, 2001, the owner of the vessel shall document to the commissioner that the vessel was utilized to fish for or take lobsters with paying passengers on board during the qualifying period in each of calendar years 1995, 1996 and 1997. The owner of the vessel shall notify the commissioner in writing on an annual basis, prior to the vessel being utilized to fish for or take lobsters, of the name and lobster license number of any person who will be using the vessel to fish for lobster during that calendar year. A person authorized under this paragraph may fish for or take lobsters only from the vessel that was made available during the qualifying period in each of calendar years 1995, 1996 and 1997, or a replacement vessel. No more than 40 lobster traps may be fished from that vessel.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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**FISCAL NOTE**

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The additional enforcement costs can be absorbed by the Department of Marine Resources utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

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**SUMMARY**

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This amendment adds a requirement that by June 30, 2001 the owner of the vessel must document that the vessel was used to fish for lobster with paying passengers on board in 1995, 1996 and 1997. It also allows a person authorized under the paragraph to fish for lobster with a replacement vessel. It also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

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