

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 382

DATE: 5-9-01

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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. 304, L.D. 382, Bill, "An Act to Reauthorize and Expand the Lobster Promotion Council"

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of subsection 5 and inserting in its place the following:

'5. Fund established; license surcharge assessed. The Lobster Promotion Fund, referred to in this subchapter as the "fund," is established to carry out the purposes of this subchapter. The department shall pay to the fund all money appropriated or received by the department for the purposes of this subchapter, except that the department may retain funds necessary to reimburse the department for the actual cost of collecting the license surcharges established in this subsection. The fund is capitalized from the following annual surcharges assessed on the following licenses issued by the department for calendar years 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005:

A. Class I crab and lobster licenses for persons 18 to 69 years of age, \$25 \$31.25;

B. Class II crab and lobster licenses, \$50 \$62.50;

C. Class III crab and lobster licenses, \$75 \$93.75;

D. Wholesale seafood licenses with lobster permits, \$200 \$250; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 E. Lobster transportation licenses, \$200 \$250.

4 A person holding more than one of the licenses listed in this
6 subsection is assessed a surcharge only on the highest
surchargeable license held.

8 The Treasurer of State shall hold all surcharges assessed by this
10 subsection in the fund and invest all money in the fund until
disbursed to the council upon request of the council. Interest
12 from investments accrues to the fund.

14 All money in the fund is subject to allocation by the
Legislature. Unexpended balances in the fund at the end of the
16 fiscal year may not lapse but must be carried forward to be used
for the same purposes.

18 In addition to payment of the regular license fee and the
20 surcharge, a person purchasing a license subject to the
surcharges established in this subsection may make voluntary
22 contributions to the fund at the time the license is purchased.
Voluntary contributions received by the department from a
24 licensee pursuant to this subsection must be deposited in the
fund by the department and must be used by the council for the
26 purposes of this subchapter.'

28 Further amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the
following:

30 'Sec. 2. Allocation. The following funds are allocated from
Other Special Revenue funds to carry out the purposes of this Act.

32 2001-02 2002-03

34 **LOBSTER PROMOTION COUNCIL**

36 **Lobster Promotion Council**

38 All Other \$79,757 \$79,757

40 Allocates additional funds
42 for the Lobster Promotion
Council.'

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

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P. 03.

FISCAL NOTE

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2001-02 **2002-03**

APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

Other Funds \$79,757 \$79,757

REVENUES

Other Funds \$79,757 \$79,757

Increasing certain license surcharges will increase surcharge license fee collections. The estimated annual increase of dedicated revenue to the Lobster Promotion Council is \$79,757 beginning in fiscal year 2001-02. The bill includes additional annual Other Special Revenue funds allocations of \$79,757 for the council beginning in fiscal year 2001-02.'

SUMMARY

This amendment continues to capitalize the Lobster Promotion Fund through surcharges on lobster and crab licenses through the year 2005. The amendment also increases the surcharge on each license used to capitalize the fund by 25%.

This amendment also adds an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.