

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2002

Legislative Document

No. 2118

H.P. 1619

House of Representatives, February 20, 2002

**An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Committee to Study
the Loss of Commercial Fishing Waterfront Access and Other Economic
Development Issues Affecting Commercial Fishing.**

Reported by Representative LEMOINE for the Committee to Study the Loss of
Commercial Fishing Waterfront Access and Other Economic Development Issues Affecting
Commercial Fishing pursuant to Joint Order 2001, H.P. 1384.

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

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

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

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4 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1804** is enacted to read:

6 **§1804. Interagency review of water-access issues**

8 The Executive Department, State Planning Office and the
10 Department of Marine Resources, within existing budgeted
12 resources, shall convene a working group of staff from all state
14 agencies that deal with water-access issues to share data,
16 program activities and areas for collaboration on water-access
18 issues. Each agency shall identify the water-access data that
20 the agency has, the water-access data that the agency needs and
potential funding sources for the collection of the needed data.
Other stakeholders may be included as appropriate. The State
Planning Office and the Department of Marine Resources shall
submit an annual report of the working group's activities to the
joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
over marine resources matters by January 15th of each year.

22 **Sec. 2. Coastal management review.** The Executive Department,
24 State Planning Office, within existing budgeted resources, shall
26 conduct a review of the structure and effectiveness of coastal
28 management in Maine. The review must specifically address state
30 oversight functions, incentives for quality local coastal
32 management and development of effectiveness indicators.
34 Shoreside land-use regulation, protection of public access and
36 protection of commercial access must be priority focuses of the
38 review, but the review should not be limited to these topics. By
December 15, 2002, the State Planning Office shall submit a
report that includes its findings and recommendations, and any
legislation necessary to implement its recommendations, to the
joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
over marine resources matters. The joint standing committee of
the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters
may report out legislation during the First Regular Session of
the 121st Legislature concerning the findings and recommendations
in the report.

40 **Sec. 3. Seafood innovation, marketing and research fund.** The
42 Department of Marine Resources, with assistance from the Marine
44 Resources Advisory Council, within existing budgeted resources,
46 shall study the value of creating an ongoing seafood innovation,
48 marketing and research fund for the commercial fishing industry
to use for scientific research, for researching new products, new
markets and new gear types and for enhancing value-added
processing. The study must include mechanisms for funding the
fund, specifically,

industry contribution through a landings or license fee. By
2 January 10, 2003, the Department of Marine Resources shall submit
a report of its findings and recommendations to the joint
4 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
marine resources matters. * The joint standing committee of the
6 Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters may
report out legislation during the First Regular Session of the
8 121st Legislature concerning the findings and recommendations in
the report.

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SUMMARY

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This bill implements some of the recommendations of the
Committee to Study the Loss of Commercial Fishing Waterfront
Access and Other Economic Development Issues Affecting Commercial
Fishing. It directs the Executive Department, State Planning
Office to review the structure and effectiveness of coastal
management in Maine; it creates a working group of state agencies
that deal with water-access issues; and it directs the Department
of Marine Resources to study the value of creating a seafood
innovation, marketing and research fund.