

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1382

S.P. 452

In Senate, March 18, 2003

**An Act To Increase the Trap Limit for Swan's Island to the
Maximum Lobster Traps Allowed in Federal Waters of Zone B**

Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DAMON of Hancock.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6431-A, sub-§1,** as repealed and replaced by
PL 1999, c. 187, §1, is amended to read:

6 **1. Limit.** ~~Before March 1, 2000, the holder of a Class I,~~
7 ~~Class II or Class III license issued under section 6421 may not~~
8 ~~submerge more than 1,000 traps. After February 29, 2000, the~~ **The**
9 holder of a Class I, Class II or Class III license issued under
10 section 6421 may not submerge more than 800 traps. If a lower
11 trap limit is adopted by rule for a zone pursuant to section
12 6446, a license holder who fishes in that zone may not submerge a
13 number of traps that exceeds the lower limit.

14
15 The number of traps fished from a vessel may not exceed the
16 applicable trap limit established in this subsection, regardless
17 of the number of license holders fishing from that vessel.

18 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6431-A, sub-§2-A** is enacted to read:

20
21 **2-A. Swan's Island and federal waters of Zone B combined**
22 **trap limit.** The holder of a Class I, Class II or Class III
23 license issued under section 6421 who fishes in the Swan's Island
24 Lobster Conservation Area may fish in federal waters of Zone B as
25 established by rule pursuant to section 6446 with an additional
26 number of traps that, combined with the number of traps that
27 person is fishing with in the Swan's Island Lobster Conservation
28 Area, equals the maximum number of traps allowed for in federal
29 waters of Zone B.

30
31 **SUMMARY**

32
33 **34** This bill allows a person who fishes for lobsters in the
34 Swan's Island Lobster Conservation Area to fish outside that area
35 in other areas of federal waters of Zone B with the number of
36 traps that, combined with the number of traps that person has
37 submerged in the Swan's Island Lobster Conservation Area, equals
38 the trap limit for federal waters of Zone B.