

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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No. 16

H.P. 18

House of Representatives, December 22, 2006

An Act To Make Lobster Trap Molesting a Civil Offense

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 20, 2006. Referred to the Committee on Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative MAZUREK of Rockland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6434, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 520, §5, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **4. Penalty.** If the holder of a lobster and crab fishing license violates this section by
5 cutting a lobster trap line, the court shall:

6 A. Order that person to pay to the owner of the trap line that was cut an amount
7 equal to twice the replacement value of all traps lost as a result of that cutting; and

8 B. Direct that person to provide proof of payment of that restitution to the
9 commissioner as required by section 6402, subsection 1.

10 A penalty imposed under this subsection is ~~in addition to any~~ a civil penalty imposed
11 ~~under section 6204 and is recoverable in a civil court.~~

12 **SUMMARY**

13 This bill decriminalizes the offense of molesting a lobster trap and makes it a civil
14 offense.