



123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 621

H.P. 470

House of Representatives, February 8, 2007

Resolve, To Establish a Lobster Trap Tag Transfer Program

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

Millicent M. Mac Jailand

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk

Presented by Representative TUTTLE of Sanford. Cosponsored by Senator SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin and Representatives: ADAMS of Portland, CRESSEY of Cornish, EATON of Sullivan, FLETCHER of Winslow, MAZUREK of Rockland, McDONOUGH of Scarborough, PENDLETON of Scarborough. 1 Sec. 1. Lobster trap tag transfer program. Resolved: That, by January 1, 2 2008, the Commissioner of Marine Resources shall develop a draft lobster trap tag 3 transfer program to allow the holder of lobster trap tags to sell or otherwise transfer any 4 number of that person's lobster trap tags to another person who holds a valid lobster and 5 crab fishing license issued under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6421. The 6 program must include but is not limited to the following:

- 7 1. A cap on the total number of lobster trap tags available at the number of lobster
 8 trap tags issued in 2006 or less;
- 9 2. A system to track the transfer of lobster trap tags and assess fees;

3. A limit on the total number of lobster trap tags a person can hold within onelobster management zone;

- 4. A requirement that a person may only sell or transfer lobster trap tags within thesame lobster management zone for which the tag was initially issued;
- 5. Protocol allowing the holder of lobster trap tags to gift those trap tags to someone within that person's immediate family without paying transfer fees;
- 6. A one-time \$5 fee on each lobster trap tag issued to fund efforts for restocking
 female lobsters in state waters or another comparable conservation measure; and
- 7. A \$5 transfer fee on each lobster trap tag transferred to another person. Revenues
 raised by this transfer fee must be used for restocking female lobsters in state waters or
 for another comparable conservation measure; and be it further
- **Sec. 2. Reporting date and draft legislation. Resolved:** That, by January 11, 2008, the Commissioner of Marine Resources shall submit the draft lobster trap tag transfer program to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources including draft legislation necessary to implement the draft lobster trap tag transfer program. The Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources may submit legislation to implement the draft lobster trap tag transfer program during the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.
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SUMMARY

29 This resolve requires the Commissioner of Marine Resources to establish a lobster 30 trap tag transfer program that allows the holder of lobster trap tags to sell or otherwise transfer any number of that person's lobster trap tags to another person who holds a valid 31 32 lobster and crab fishing license. It provides that the program must include a cap on the number of trap tags at no more than 2006 levels and a \$5 transfer fee. Revenues raised 33 under this program must be used to fund lobster restocking or for other comparable 34 conservation measures. The resolve directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to 35 submit the draft lobster trap tag transfer program and draft legislation to implement the 36 37 program to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources by January 11, 2008.