

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 278

S.P. 95

In Senate, February 3, 2009

An Act To Bring Equity to the Sea Urchin License Fees

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 TRAHAN of Lincoln.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6748, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 20, Pt. WW, §19, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **4. Fee.** The fee for a handfishing sea urchin license is ~~\$111~~ \$2.50 multiplied by the
5 total number of open fishing days in the applicable zone.

6 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6748-A, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 20, Pt. WW, §20,
7 is further amended to read:

8 **4. Fee.** The fee for a sea urchin dragging license is ~~\$111~~ \$2.50 multiplied by the
9 total number of open fishing days in the applicable zone.

10 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6748-D, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 20, Pt. WW, §21,
11 is further amended to read:

12 **4. Fee.** The fee for a sea urchin hand-raking and trapping license is ~~\$111~~ \$2.50
13 multiplied by the total number of open fishing days in the applicable zone.

14 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §6749-Q, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 392, §8, is
15 further amended to read:

16 **1. Handfishing sea urchin license.** ~~One hundred and sixty dollars~~ Three dollars and
17 sixty cents multiplied by the total number of open fishing days in the applicable zone on a
18 sea urchin handharvesting license;

19 **Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §6749-Q, sub-§1-A**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 392, §8, is
20 amended to read:

21 **1-A. Sea urchin hand-raking and trapping license.** ~~One hundred and sixty dollars~~
22 Three dollars and sixty cents multiplied by the total number of open fishing days in the
23 applicable zone on a sea urchin hand-raking and trapping license;

24 **Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §6749-Q, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 740, §3, is
25 amended to read:

26 **2. Sea urchin dragging license.** ~~One hundred and sixty dollars~~ Three dollars and
27 sixty cents multiplied by the total number of open fishing days in the applicable zone on a
28 sea urchin dragging license;

29 **SUMMARY**

30 Under current law, the holder of a sea urchin fishing license pays the same license fee
31 to fish for sea urchins in either Zone 1 or Zone 2 despite a significant difference between
32 the zones in the number of days open to sea urchin fishing. This bill restructures the
33 current annual fee for sea urchin fishing licenses to a fee based on the number of days
34 available for the license holder to fish for sea urchins.