

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 378

H.P. 285

House of Representatives, February 5, 2009

An Act To Prohibit Dragging for Bait Fish in Certain Territorial Waters

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative VALENTINO of Saco.
Cosponsored by Representatives: ADAMS of Portland, BLANCHARD of Old Town,
HANLEY of Gardiner, MacDONALD of Boothbay, MAZUREK of Rockland, PENDLETON
of Scarborough, Senator: HOBBS of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6954-D** is enacted to read:

3 **§6954-D. Dragging within 2 miles of shore**

4 **1. Prohibition.** A person may not use a drag to catch bait fish within the first 2
5 miles of territorial waters.

6 **2. Rules.** The department shall adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted
7 pursuant to this section must define "bait fish" and establish the nautical line clearly
8 delineating the area encompassed by the first 2 miles of the territorial waters. Rules
9 adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5,
10 chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

11 **3. Violation.** A person who violates subsection 1 commits a civil violation for
12 which a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 may be adjudged for each
13 violation.

14 **SUMMARY**

15 This bill prohibits using a drag to catch bait fish within the first 2 miles of territorial
16 waters, and requires the Department of Marine Resources to adopt rules to implement this
17 prohibition.