

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 425

H.P. 292

House of Representatives, February 12, 2015

An Act To Prohibit False Labeling of Marine Organisms

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

Robert B. Hunt
ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative CHAPMAN of Brooksville.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA c. 605, sub-c. 3-B** is enacted to read:

3 **SUBCHAPTER 3-B**

4 **GENETICALLY ENGINEERED PRODUCTS**

5 **§6116. Labeling of genetically engineered marine organisms**

6 **1. Labeling prohibition.** Beginning January 1, 2016, a marine organism that has
7 been, in whole or in part, genetically engineered may not be offered for sale for human
8 consumption if labeled with the same name as its nongenetically engineered counterpart
9 unless the words "genetically engineered" appear immediately before the name in the
10 same size, color and font type. For purposes of this section, "genetically engineered"
11 means modified by recombinant DNA techniques or containing such a modification as
12 the result of inheritance.

13 **2. Violation; penalty.** Failure to comply with this section is a civil violation for
14 which a fine of not more than \$1,500 may be adjudged.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill requires clear and conspicuous labeling of a marine organism offered for
17 sale if the marine organism is produced using genetic engineering and is labeled with the
18 same name as its nongenetically engineered counterpart. Failure to provide the required
19 labeling is a civil violation.