

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 369

H.P. 275

House of Representatives, February 2, 2017

**An Act To Establish the Seaweed Advisory Council and To Enhance
the Management of the Seaweed Fishery**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DEVIN of Newcastle.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§57-H** is enacted to read:

3 **57-H.**

4 Marine Resources Seaweed Advisory Expenses Only 12 MRSA §6087
5 Council

6 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6087** is enacted to read:

7 **§6087. Seaweed Advisory Council**

8 **1. Appointment; composition.** The Seaweed Advisory Council, established by
9 Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 57-H and referred to in this section as "the council,"
10 consists of 5 members appointed by the commissioner as follows:

11 A. Two members who each hold either a seaweed permit or seaweed buyer's license;

12 B. Two members who are seaweed aquaculture lease holders; and

13 C. One member of the scientific community.

14 The commissioner shall make appointments so that the composition of the council
15 reflects the diversity of the State's seaweed operations.

16 **2. Purpose.** The council shall:

17 A. Make recommendations to the commissioner and the joint standing committee of
18 the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters on all matters
19 concerning the health of the seaweed resource, its ecosystem and the industry it
20 supports.

21 B. Make recommendations to the commissioner regarding expenditures from the
22 Seaweed Management Fund as described in section 6806.

23 **3. Term.** The term of a member appointed to the council is 3 years, except that a
24 vacancy during an unexpired term must be filled in the same manner as for the original
25 member for the unexpired portion of the member's term. A member may not serve more
26 than 2 consecutive terms.

27 **4. Officers.** The officers of the council are the chair, vice-chair and secretary. The
28 term of the officers is one year. The council shall elect a member of the council for each
29 officer position at the first regular meeting of each year.

30 **5. Meeting.** The council shall meet at least once a year. It may also meet at other
31 times at the call of the chair or the commissioner.

32 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6806, sub-§3,** as reallocated by RR 1999, c. 1, §18, is
33 amended to read:

