

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 956

H.P. 711

House of Representatives, February 21, 2019

**An Act To Allow Student License Holders To Fish for or Take
Lobsters during a Closed Season**

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. 12 MRSA §6421, sub-§3-A, ¶E**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 68, §3, is
3 further amended to read:

4 E. A student license authorizes the license holder to engage in the licensed activities
5 under subsection 2. Notwithstanding section 6472 or any other provision that
6 establishes a closed season on fishing for or taking lobsters, a student license holder
7 is authorized to fish for or take lobsters during a closed season if that closed season
8 occurs during an interim between school years. A student license may be issued only
9 to a person who, at the time of application, is 8 years of age or older and under 23
10 years of age. A person issued a student license may not submerge more than:

11 (1) Ten lobster traps in the coastal waters of the State if the person is 8 years of
12 age or older and under 11 years of age;

13 (2) Fifty lobster traps in the coastal waters of the State if the person is 11 years
14 of age or older and under 14 years of age; or

15 (3) One hundred and fifty lobster traps in the coastal waters of the State if the
16 person is 14 years of age or older and under 23 years of age.

17 A person issued a student license is enrolled in the apprentice program under section
18 6422. When applying for a license the person must designate a sponsor and may
19 designate up to 3 sponsors. For the purposes of this paragraph, "sponsor" means a
20 person who holds a Class I, Class II or Class III lobster and crab fishing license
21 issued under this section.

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This bill allows a person with a student lobster and crab fishing license to fish for or
24 take lobsters during a closed season on fishing for or taking lobsters if that closed season
25 occurs during an interim between school years.