

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 1286

H.P. 928

House of Representatives, March 14, 2019

**An Act To Allow the Deposition of Oyster Shell Cultch To
Ameliorate Ocean and Coastal Acidification**

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

Robert B. Hunt
ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BLUME of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6521, sub-§1**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2007, c. 615,
3 §16, is amended to read:

4 **1. Deposition of dead marine animals; exception.** A person may not deposit or
5 discard, in intertidal zones or in harbors or rivers below the dividing line between
6 tidewater and fresh water, any dead marine animal or its parts, except that:

7 A. A person may deposit oyster shell cultch in those waters ~~solely~~ to promote growth
8 of oysters with the written permission of the commissioner and under any conditions
9 the commissioner determines appropriate; ~~and~~

10 B. The commissioner may grant an exception to this subsection within federal
11 requirements for the purpose of conducting research on dead marine animals; and

12 C. A person may deposit oyster shell cultch in those waters to ameliorate ocean and
13 coastal acidification with the written permission of the commissioner, who may issue
14 permission taking into consideration any conditions the commissioner considers
15 appropriate.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill allows the deposition of oyster shell cultch in intertidal zones or in harbors
18 or rivers below the dividing line between tidewater and fresh water to ameliorate ocean
19 and coastal acidification with the written permission of the Commissioner of Marine
20 Resources, who may issue permission taking into consideration any conditions the
21 commissioner considers appropriate.