

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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APPROVED AND PLACED ON
FILE MARCH 20, 1984

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

March 15, 1984

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Legislative Council Chambers, Room 327, and called to order by Chairman Charles P. Pray at 1:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Senators: Sen. Collins, Sen. Gill, Sen. Pray
Sen. Conley, Sen. Carpenter

Representatives: Rep. Davis, Rep. Diamond, Rep.
Martin, Rep. Mitchell

Legislative Officers and Staff:

Sally Diamond - Legislative Administrative Director
Helen Ginder - Legislative Assistants Director
Catherine Freehling - Law Librarian
David Silsby - Legislative Research Director

SECRETARY'S REPORT

MOTION

Rep. Martin moved that the minutes of March 7, 1984 be approved and placed on file.

Rep. Davis seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A request for authorization to study a limit on lobster traps was submitted to the Council by the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources.

MOTION

Rep. Martin moved that the request be placed on file.

Rep. Mitchell seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

AFTER DEADLINE BILL REQUESTS

After Deadline Bill Requests were submitted to the Council and voted upon. (See attached list)

NEW BUSINESS

A compensation package for non-partisan legislative employees was presented to the Council.

MOTION

Rep. Martin moved that the same compensation package adopted for confidential employees be adopted by the Legislative Council for non-partisan legislative employees.

Rep. Davis seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Martin also moved that the Clerk of the House, Assistant Clerk of the House, Secretary of the Senate and the Assistant Secretary of the Senate be given a one-step increase within their ranges as provided by statute.

The motion was seconded by Sen. Conley and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Sen. Collins moved that the Council meeting be adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

The motion was seconded by Sen. Carpenter and carried unanimously.

SENATE

CARROLL E. MINKOWSKY, ANDROSCOGGIN, CHAIR
DENNIS L. DUTREMBLE, YORK
LVIN A. SHUTE, WALDO

JOHN BAILEY, LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT
HELEN BARRETT, COMMITTEE CLERK



HOUSE

NATHANIEL J. CROWLEY, SR.,
STOCKTON SPRINGS, CHAIR
HARRY L. VOSE, EASTPORT
PETER J. MANNING, PORTLAND
JAMES MITCHELL, FREEPORT
EDWARD AINSWORTH, YARMOUTH
RITA B. MELENDY, ROCKLAND
MAYNARD G. CONNERS, FRANKLIN
MURIEL D. HOLLOWAY, EDGECOMB
ROLAND S. SALSBURY, BAR HARBOR
GUY G. SCARPINO, ST. GEORGE

STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON MARINE RESOURCES

March 21, 1984

To: Sen. Charles Pray, Chairman
Members of the Legislative Council

From: Sen. Carroll Minkowsky, Chair
Rep. Nat Crowley, Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources

Subj: Request for a study of a limit on lobster traps

1. Committee. The study would be conducted by the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources. Staff assistance would be provided by the Office of Legislative Assistants. The Committee may request assistance from the Department of Marine Resources, the Lobster Advisory Council, the Maine Lobstermen's Association, and other appropriate organizations.

2. Subject. The study will examine the need and justification for limiting the number of traps used in Maine's lobster industry. The historical data on lobster catch and fishing effort will be analyzed. The Committee will examine various approaches to limiting the number of lobster traps in use and will report on their advantages and disadvantages.

3. Priority. This study is the Committee's highest priority.

4. Completion date. The Committee would expect to complete this study by April 1, 1985.

5. Analysis. The lobster industry is the most commercially important fishery in Maine with landings valued in excess of \$100 million per year. Over the past several decades, the effort expended in lobstering has increased enormously with at least 2 million traps in the water each year. Despite this effort the catch has increased only slightly over the same period. These are indications that the lobster stocks are under heavy pressure and that the fishery may be in decline.

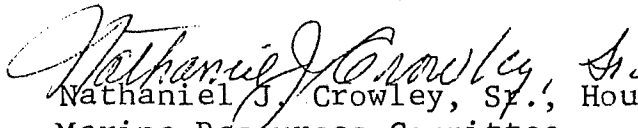
6. Reason for study. The Department of Marine Resources is engaged in a long term effort to test and implement a limit on lobster traps. The Committee feels that the concept of a trap limit is a matter of important

state policy and that it should be examined by the Legislature. It is clear from discussions with the Department, that legislation will be needed to authorize and implement a trap limit. This legislation should stem from careful study by the Committee of the issues and problems involved.

7. Members of Subcommittee. The full committee will participate in the study. Geographically defined subcommittees will be formed to hold hearings along the coast.

8. Proposed schedule of meetings. Two organizational and background meetings will be held in Augusta during the summer. Approximately three meetings will be held in the major lobstering ports along the coast. Any additional meetings for work sessions would be held in Augusta after the start of the first regular session of the 112th Legislature.


Carroll E. Minkowsky, Senate Chairman
Marine Resources Committee


Nathaniel J. Crowley, Sr., House Chairman
Marine Resources Committee