

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL AND SECOND REGULAR SESSIONS



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
MARINE RESOURCES**

November 2020

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STATE OF MAINE

129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 129th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

CARRIED OVER..... carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
CON RES XXX..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCY..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX..... chapter # of enacted public law
RESOLVE XXX..... chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources

LD 28

Resolve, Directing the Department of Marine Resources To Evaluate the Limited-entry Lobster and Crab Fishing Licensing System

RESOLVE 116

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCREIGHT J MIRAMANT D	OTP-AM ONTP	H-686

This bill was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to authorize new zone entrants for a limited-entry lobster zone who have been on a waiting list for 10 or more years and have met certain eligibility requirements. A person authorized as a new zone entrant under this bill must adhere to specific trap tag limits.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-686)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill with a resolve and changes the title. It requires the Department of Marine Resources to provide the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters with a report that evaluates the limited-entry zone system by February 15, 2021. It requires the department to examine the long waiting period for entry to fish in a limited-entry zone. This amendment requires the department, in examining the waiting list, to consider several factors, including, but not limited to, the current biological status of the fishery, current exit-to-entry ratios in each limited-entry zone, latency of licenses and trap tags and the current policy for student lobster and crab fishing licenses. It requires the department to revisit the recommendations made in the report prepared for the department by the Gulf of Maine Research Institute pursuant to Resolve 2011, chapter 62. It requires the department to make recommendations regarding the long waiting period for entry into a limited-entry zone. It also requires the department to account for possible new federal regulations to address protections for endangered right whales when making any recommendations. Lastly, this amendment authorizes the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters to report out legislation to the First Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 116 requires the Department of Marine Resources to provide the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters with a report that evaluates the limited-entry zone system by February 15, 2021. It requires the department to examine the long waiting period for entry to fish in a limited-entry zone and in examining the waiting list, to consider several factors, including, but not limited to, the current biological status of the fishery, current exit-to-entry ratios in each limited-entry zone, latency of licenses and trap tags and the current policy for student lobster and crab fishing licenses. It requires the department to revisit the recommendations made in the report prepared for the department by the Gulf of Maine Research Institute pursuant to Resolve 2011, chapter 62. It requires the department to make recommendations regarding the long waiting period for entry into a limited-entry zone. It also requires the department to account for possible new federal regulations to address protections for endangered right whales when making any recommendations. Lastly, Resolve 2019, chapter 116 authorizes the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters to report out legislation to the First Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.