

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE  
131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
MARINE RESOURCES**

June 2024

**STAFF:**

ANNE DAVISON, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla>

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. CAMERON RENY, CHAIR  
SEN. PINNY BEEBE-CENTER  
SEN. MARIANNE MOORE

REP. ALLISON HEPLER, CHAIR  
REP. H. SCOTT LANDRY, JR.  
REP. VICKI W. DOUDERA  
REP. JAMES F. DILL  
REP. HOLLY RAE EATON  
REP. JAMES E. THORNE  
REP. TIFFANY STROUT  
REP. IRENE A. GIFFORD  
REP. KENNETH RALPH DAVIS, JR.  
REP. ABDEN S. SIMMONS

# STATE OF MAINE

131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILLS AND SUMMARIES OF ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* provides the disposition of all LDs and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed during the Second Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature. Please note that all LDs and proposed amendments may be found through the Legislature's webpage, and each includes a summary of what the bill or amendment proposed.

The *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* is arranged alphabetically by committee. Within each committee section is a subject index of all LDs considered by that committee as well as a digest of the LDs, arranged by LD number. Also included are enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed. Brief analyst notes on certain LDs are also included: a committee digest will indicate if additional notes are provided for an LD. These notes add information staff found useful and may provide useful information to users of this *Digest*; please note that most LDs do not have a note and lack of a note should not be interpreted as having any significance. A separate section of the *Digest* provides a digest of the relatively few LDs that were not referred to a committee or reported from a committee as a committee bill; enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed are provided. Finally, an appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

The final disposition of each LD is noted in the relevant summary digest and index. 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 Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature is Friday, August 9, 2024. 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 2025 An Act to Provide for Medical and Vessel Breakdown License Exceptions for Commercial Menhaden License Holders**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 562 provides that the holder of a commercial menhaden fishing license may fish for, take, possess, ship, transport or sell menhaden that the holder has taken using only the vessel named on the license, with the following exceptions.

1. It allows a commercial menhaden license holder who is unable to fish for or take menhaden due to an illness or disability to request authorization from the Commissioner of Marine Resources and for the commissioner to grant the authorization for another commercial menhaden license holder to fish for or take menhaden on the ill or disabled license holder's behalf.
2. It allows a commercial menhaden license holder to request authorization to use a vessel other than the vessel identified on that license holder's license when that license holder's vessel is temporarily inoperable.

Public Law 2023, chapter 562 also provides that the holder of a noncommercial menhaden fishing license may fish for, take or possess menhaden that the holder has taken using only the vessel named on the license.

### **LD 2026 An Act to Authorize Medical Waivers for Menhaden Fishing Licenses**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 540 allows a holder of a resident commercial menhaden fishing license or a nonresident commercial menhaden fishing license to appeal a license denial if a substantial illness or medical condition on the part of the person or a family member prevented that person from meeting the eligibility requirements for that license.

### **LD 2031 An Act to Make Changes to the State's Marine Resources Laws**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 563 makes the following changes to the State's marine resources laws.

1. It eliminates the Aquaculture Monitoring, Research and Development Fund, which is no longer capitalized.
2. It clarifies language regarding the requirement for a license holder to have the license holder's license, elver transaction card and photo identification in the license holder's possession when engaging in licensed activities.

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON MARINE RESOURCES

3. It changes the surcharge for a wholesale seafood license with a sea urchin buyer's permit from \$500 to \$160.
4. It removes an existing exception to holding a seaweed permit when selling seaweed that has detached naturally and is dead.
5. It adds an exemption for the harvesting of green crabs that provides that a person may fish for, take, possess or transport green crabs without a license if the person is acting at the direction of a municipal shellfish management committee for the purpose of municipal shellfish management and if the green crabs are not sold.

### **LD 2064 An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Certain Advisory Councils and Boards Related to the Department of Marine Resources**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 556 makes the following changes regarding certain advisory councils and boards related to the Department of Marine Resources.

1. It amends the membership of the Marine Resources Advisory Council by adding the chair of the Aquaculture Advisory Council as an ex officio member and eliminating the member representing the aquaculture industry selected by the Governor.
2. It expands the membership of the Aquaculture Advisory Council from five to seven members and states that, in appointing members to the council, the Commissioner of Marine Resources shall ensure that there is geographic representation as well as representation of multiple sectors of the aquaculture industry. It also states that at least one member and up to two members of the council must be members of the public with expertise in matters related to the work of the council.
3. It limits members of the Aquaculture Advisory Council to no more than two consecutive terms and expands the purpose of the council by requiring the council to make recommendations on matters of interest to the aquaculture industry to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters. It also specifies officers for the council and increases the required number of meetings from one to two per year.
4. It amends the membership of the board that advises the Commissioner of Marine Resources on expenditures from the Lobster Research, Education and Development Fund by changing the membership structure from one that consists of certain associations to one that consists of individuals representing certain sectors of the lobster industry as well as individuals representing the Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative and the Lobster Advisory Council.