

Marine Resources

PUBLIC 558 An Act to Designate the Great Salt Bay Marine Shellfish Preserve LD 2172

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
-------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------

Public Law 2001, chapter 558 designates the Great Salt Bay in Lincoln County as a marine shellfish preserve. The purpose of the designation is to gain a better understanding of the structure, function and integrity of marine shellfish ecosystems and to improve educational and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems that are subject to minimal human disturbance. Chapter 558 prohibits the harvesting of shellfish and other harvesting activities that involve bottom disturbance. Research activities are excluded from the prohibition. Chapter 558 also directs the Department of Marine Resources to participate in a privately funded study of the bay.

PUBLIC 581 An Act to Establish Educational Requirements for Granting LD 1996
Noncommercial Lobster Licenses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> ETNIER EDMONDS	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-935
--	-----------------------------------	------------------------------------

Public Law 2001, chapter 581 requires that, beginning in 2003, applicants for noncommercial lobster and crab fishing licenses successfully complete a written examination if the applicant has not either previously passed the examination or previously held a commercial lobster license. It also requires the Department of Marine Resources to provide to each applicant a pamphlet of all the laws and rules relating to a noncommercial lobster and crab fishing license. A surcharge will be collected from persons taking the written examination sufficient to cover the costs to the department of producing the pamphlet and producing and grading the examinations. Surcharges collected will be deposited in the Lobster Management Fund.

PUBLIC 587 An Act to Allow Qualified Shellfish Harvesters to Continue to LD 2152
EMERGENCY Sample Water Quality

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> ETNIER SMALL	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-933
--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	------------------------------------

Public Law 2001, chapter 587 provides that a commercial shellfish license holder who complies with the shellfish sanitation program's quality assurance and quality control training and certification requirements as administered by the Department of Marine Resources may serve as a volunteer water quality sampler for the department.

Chapter 587 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 1, 2002.

PUBLIC 595 An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Committee to LD 2118

Marine Resources

Study the Loss of Commercial Fishing Waterfront Access and Other Economic Development Issues Affecting Commercial Fishing

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-934
-------------------	--	-----------------------------------	--	------------------------------------

Public Law 2001, chapter 595 implements some of the recommendations of the Committee to Study the Loss of Commercial Fishing Waterfront Access and Other Economic Development Issues Affecting Commercial Fishing. It directs the Land and Water Resources Council to review the structure and effectiveness of coastal management in Maine; it creates a working group of state agencies that deal with coastal water-access issues; and it directs the Department of Marine Resources to study the value of creating a seafood innovation, marketing and research fund.

RESOLVE 112 Resolve, Dealing With One-time License Transfers of Sea Urchin LD 2213 **EMERGENCY Dragging Licenses**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
-------------------	--	-------------------------	--	---------------------------

Resolve 2001, chapter 112 allows new sea urchin dragging licenses to be issued to certain persons who fish for sea urchins who were not able to qualify for license transfers under the one-time license transfer program. The resolve sets deadlines within which an affected person who fishes must provide documentation to the Commissioner of Marine Resources that the person who fishes meets the requirements. See Public Law 2001, chapter 710, sections 22 and 23. Chapter 710 is summarized in the Judiciary Committee section.