

**TESTIMONY OF  
Patrick Keliher  
Commissioner**

**The Department of Marine Resources (DMR) is testifying  
In Support of**

**L.D. 222 An Act To Reduce Commercial Shellfish License Fees  
for Persons under 18 Years of Age**

**Representative Tuell  
Date of Hearing: February 25, 2015**

Senator Baker, Representative Kumiega, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources, my name is Patrick Keliher, Commissioner for the Department of Marine Resources, and I am testifying on behalf of the Department in support of LD 222.

After a review of the industry's participants and their associated softshell clam landings, it is clear that this age group is fishing seasonally and are not harvesting at a level of someone who is digging to make the majority of their living from this resource. Therefore it is appropriate to treat our youth differently as it pertains to the cost of a commercial shellfish license.

Thank you for your time here today. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.