



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**Testimony of Rep. Walter Kumiega
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources
Presenting LD 563, An Act Regarding the Purchase of Trap Tags in the Lobster Fishery**

Senator Baker and fellow members of the Committee on Marine Resources - I am Representative Walter Kumiega, serving Vinalhaven, North Haven, Isle au Haut, Stonington, Deer Isle, Southwest Harbor, Tremont, Swans Island, the Cranberry Isles and Frenchboro. I am here today to present **LD 563, An Act Regarding the Purchase of Trap Tags in the Lobster Fishery.**

After speaking with members of industry and the Department I have decided this issue needs more time and study. Commissioner Keliher will be conducting industry outreach meetings later this year and I am sure that latent effort will be part of the discussions. I respectfully request that the committee suspend the rules and go immediately into work session for the purpose of voting ought not to pass.

After the vote I would request that we remain in session and hear from any member of the public that wishes to be heard.

Thank you, and I would be happy to attempt to answer any questions.