



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

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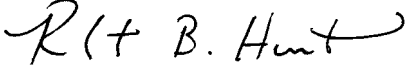
H.P. 854

House of Representatives, March 25, 2025

### **An Act to Require the Department of Marine Resources to Conduct Biotoxin Testing of Cultured Scallops**

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Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.

  
ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative EATON of Deer Isle.  
Cosponsored by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock and  
Representatives: HEPLER of Woolwich, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, STROUT of Harrington,  
WEBB of Durham, Senator: RENY of Lincoln.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6089** is enacted to read:

3 **§6089. Scallop biotoxin testing**

4 **1. Scallop biotoxin testing.** As part of the Marine Shellfish Toxins Monitoring  
5 Program under section 6076, the department shall conduct testing of cultured scallops for  
6 biotoxins in the same manner as the testing for other cultured mollusks under the program,  
7 including using high-performance liquid chromatography testing. The department shall  
8 provide logistical support to a commercial fisheries business engaged in scallop  
9 aquaculture in conducting the testing under this section, including providing transportation  
10 of samples to be tested. For purposes of this section, "high-performance liquid  
11 chromatography testing" means a testing technique in analytical chemistry that uses high-  
12 pressure pumps to separate, identify and quantify specific components in mixtures.

13 **2. Funding.** The department shall carry out the purposes of this section through  
14 appropriations, allocations, federal grants, donations from public or private sources or a  
15 partnership with an organization having the purpose of supporting marine aquaculture.  
16 Funds received under this subsection must be used for biotoxin testing and logistical  
17 support for commercial fisheries businesses under subsection 1.

18 **3. Report.** By January 1st of each year, the department shall submit an annual report  
19 detailing the number of commercial fisheries businesses using the testing under this section,  
20 the overall impact on the scallop aquaculture industry, including economic growth and  
21 cultured scallops landings, and recommendations for further improvements or expansions  
22 of the testing under this section to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having  
23 jurisdiction over marine resources matters.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill requires the Department of Marine Resources to conduct biotoxin testing of  
26 cultured scallops under the Marine Shellfish Toxins Monitoring Program. Testing  
27 requirements include using high-performance liquid chromatography testing and providing  
28 logistical support to commercial fisheries businesses engaged in scallop aquaculture,  
29 including providing transportation of samples for testing. Funds received by the department  
30 for the testing may be used only for biotoxin testing of cultured scallops, and the department  
31 is required to submit an annual report on the testing to the Legislature by January 1st of  
32 each year.