



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1618

H.P. 1043

House of Representatives, April 11, 2023

Resolve, to Convene a Lobster Industry Working Group

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

Handwritten signature of Robert B. Hunt in cursive.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative GOLEK of Harpswell.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DAVIS of East Machias, DILL of Old Town,
FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, JAUCH of Topsham, LANDRY of Farmington,
THORNE of Carmel.

1 **Sec. 1. Department of Marine Resources to convene working group.**

2 **Resolved:** That the Department of Marine Resources shall convene a working group to
3 develop a long-term plan to support the lobster industry. The department shall invite
4 participation in the working group from at least the following: members of the lobster
5 industry; local officials from towns with significant lobster industry activity; experts on the
6 lobster industry and federal regulation of the lobster industry; and the Attorney General or
7 the Attorney General's designee. The working group shall review and develop
8 recommendations relating to the lobster industry, including, but not limited to, state and
9 federal regulation, infrastructure needs, waterfront access, climate change concerns and
10 marketing of the industry. By December 6, 2023, the department shall submit an interim
11 report and recommendations, including any suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing
12 Committee on Marine Resources. The committee may report out legislation related to the
13 interim report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature. By November 6,
14 2024, the department shall submit a final report and recommendations, including any
15 suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources. The joint
16 standing committee having jurisdiction over marine resources matters may report out
17 legislation related to the final report to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This resolve requires the Department of Marine Resources to convene a working group
20 to develop a long-term plan to support the lobster industry. By December 6, 2023, the
21 department must submit an interim report and recommendations to the Joint Standing
22 Committee on Marine Resources. The committee may report out legislation related to the
23 interim report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature. By November 6,
24 2024, the department must submit a final report and recommendations, including any
25 suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources. The joint
26 standing committee having jurisdiction over marine resources matters may report out
27 legislation related to the final report to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.