

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

—
H.P. 1343 - L.D. 2013

**An Act to Authorize the Commissioner of Marine Resources to Adopt
Emergency Rules to Protect Certain Marine Mammals in Exceptional
Circumstances**

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6171, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Emergency rules to limit taking of marine organisms. Notwithstanding subsections 3 and 5, the commissioner may adopt routine technical rules as emergency rules under Title 5, section 8054 that limit the taking of marine organisms by method or location to protect marine mammals listed under section 6975 when the commissioner, upon consultation with industry personnel, determines that immediate action is necessary to mitigate circumstances posing an exceptionally high level of risk to those mammals.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6171, sub-§7 is enacted to read:

7. Annual report on use of emergency rule-making authority. The department shall submit a written report on or before January 1st of each year to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters regarding the use of emergency rulemaking pursuant to subsection 6. The joint standing committee may report out a bill based on the report to any regular or special session of the Legislature in the year the report is due.