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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT " " to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 876, L.D. 1353, "An Act Regarding Required Landings in the Menhaden Fishery"

Amend the amendment by striking out all of section 1 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6502-C, sub-§1-C, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 169, §2 and affected by §5, is amended to read:

1-C. Menhaden license limited entry system. Notwithstanding subsection 1-B, the commissioner may shall establish by rule a limited entry system under which a person who did not hold a commercial menhaden license in the previous calendar year may become eligible to obtain that license when the total number of commercial menhaden licenses is less than 350 licenses and as long as the fishery exit ratio is one to one. The rules for a limited entry system must include provisions for the method and administration of the system. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. and provide preference to individuals:

- A. Who meet the requirements of subsection 1-E; and
B. Based on geographical location, who reside closest to the eastern coast of the State.
Rules establishing a limited entry system in accordance with this subsection must be adopted by December 31, 2027. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.'

Amend the amendment in section 2 in subsection 1-E in the first line (page 1, line 24 in amendment) by striking out the following: "in 2026"

Amend the amendment in section 2 in subsection 1-E in the first and 2nd lines (page 1, lines 24 and 25 in amendment) by striking out the following: "Notwithstanding subsection 1-B" and inserting the following: 'Prior to the adoption of a limited entry system pursuant to subsection 1-C'

Amend the amendment in section 2 in subsection 1-E in the 2nd line (page 1, line 25 in amendment) by striking out the following: "2026"

Amend the amendment in section 2 in subsection 1-E in the 3rd line (page 1, line 26 in amendment) by striking out the following: "2026"

Amend the amendment by striking out all of section 3.

HOUSE AMENDMENT

1 Amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
2 section number to read consecutively.

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment amends Committee Amendment "A" to require the Commissioner of
5 Marine Resources to adopt rules by December 31, 2027 to establish a limited entry
6 commercial menhaden fishing license system that provides preference to individuals who
7 meet the eligibility standards established in Committee Amendment "A" and, based on
8 geographical location, reside closest to the eastern coast of Maine.

9 Until the commissioner establishes the limited entry system, the eligibility standards
10 must be used. The amendment also removes the provision of Committee Amendment "A"
11 that directs the Department of Marine Resources to identify groups that should be
12 prioritized for the first available licenses and develop an entry plan to provide the first
13 opportunity for licenses to individuals in the identified groups.

14 **SPONSORED BY:** _____

15 **(Representative FAULKINGHAM, B.)**

16 **TOWN: Winter Harbor**