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JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THOSE MAINE FISHERMEN LOST AT SEA

WHEREAS, every day, men and women along Maine's coast leave safe harbors to go and fish for the diverse array of species with which the Gulf of Maine has been blessed; and

WHEREAS, lobstermen, ground fishermen, shrimpers, scallopers, sea urchin harvesters and others set out each day to pursue their livelihoods in a challenging and often treacherous environment; and

WHEREAS, sadly, there are inevitably some who do not return home. Commercial fishing is one of the most dangerous occupations one can pursue, and even the most experienced fisherman can fall victim to treacherous conditions; and

WHEREAS, 46 of Maine's commercial fishermen have been tragically lost at sea since 1993, when a tradition of memorializing these individuals was begun at the Maine Fishermen's Forum to ensure that they are not forgotten; and

WHEREAS, the Maine Fishermen's Forum is a long-standing Maine institution dedicated to educating the public, fishing industry members and managers about marine resource issues and providing a neutral platform for constructive discussion and decision-making; and

WHEREAS, the loss of these brave and hard-working men reverberated through their communities and altered the lives of their family members forever. We acknowledge their passing with deep regret and express our sympathy to all who knew and loved them; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to honor the memory of the Maine men who lost their lives in pursuit of their livelihood from the sea:

RESOLVED:

; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Maine Fishermen's Forum.