



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 1059

H.P. 782

House of Representatives, March 5, 2019

**An Act To Authorize the Establishment of an Apprentice License
for the Maine Scallop Fishery**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative McDONALD of Stonington.
Cosponsored by Senator DOW of Lincoln and
Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, BABINE of Scarborough, BLUME of York, COLLINGS of
Portland, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, HEPLER of Woolwich, HOBBS of Wells,
JAVNER of Chester.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6702, sub-§7** is enacted to read:

3 **7. Apprentice license.** The department may establish by rule an apprentice program
4 for entry into the scallop fishery that includes an apprentice license for a resident who is
5 18 years of age or older to engage in dragging for scallops under the supervision of a
6 person licensed under this section. The fee for an apprentice scallop dragging license is
7 \$250.

8 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6706, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 237, §2, is further
9 amended to read:

10 **3. Scallop license limited entry system.** Notwithstanding subsection 2, the
11 commissioner shall establish by rule a limited entry system under which a person who did
12 not hold a hand fishing scallop license or a scallop dragging license in the previous
13 calendar year may become eligible to obtain that license. The rules for a limited entry
14 system must include provisions for the method and administration of the ~~program~~ system.
15 Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are ~~major substantive~~ routine technical rules as
16 defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

17 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6729, sub-§1, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 607, Pt. A,
18 §12, is further amended to read:

19 B. For a scallop draggers license, \$100, plus an additional \$250 to sponsor an
20 apprentice pursuant to section 6702, subsection 7;

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill allows the Department of Marine Resources to establish by rule an
23 apprentice program for entry into the scallop fishery that includes an apprentice license
24 allowing an apprentice to engage in dragging for scallops under the supervision of a
25 scallop dragging license holder. It sets the apprentice license fee at \$250 and creates a
26 \$250 license surcharge for a scallop dragger to sponsor an apprentice. It limits
27 participation to residents and makes 18 years of age the minimum age to participate as an
28 apprentice. It also changes rules to implement the scallop license limited entry system
29 from major substantive rules to routine technical rules.