



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1503

H.P. 987

House of Representatives, April 8, 2025

An Act to Create a Green Crab Only Wholesale Dealer License

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rlt B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative GOLEK of Harpswell.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and
Representatives: EATON of Deer Isle, FARRIN of Jefferson, HEPLER of Woolwich, RIELLY
of Westbrook, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, STROUT of Harrington, THORNE of Carmel.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6866 is enacted to read:

§6866. Green crab only wholesale dealer license

1. Definition. For the purposes of this section, unless the context indicates otherwise, "green crab" means the species *Carcinus maenas*.

2. License required. A person may not engage in the activities authorized under this section without a current:

A. Green crab only wholesale dealer license established by this section; or

B. Wholesale seafood license pursuant to section 6851.

3. License activities. The holder of a green crab only wholesale dealer license may, in wholesale trade, buy, sell, process, ship or transport green crabs purchased directly from harvesters in this State. A holder of a green crab only wholesale dealer license when buying directly from a harvester may buy only from a harvester who possesses a license or permit to harvest green crabs required under this Part. The harvester shall make the applicable marine resources license or permit available for inspection upon the green crab only wholesale dealer license holder's request.

4. License fee. The fee for a green crab only wholesale dealer license is \$50.

5. Violation. A person who engages in activities authorized under subsection 3 without a license specified in subsection 2 is subject to a penalty established by the department. The department may revoke or suspend a green crab only wholesale dealer license for violation of this section.

6. Sunset. This section is repealed January 1, 2031.

7. Review. Prior to the repeal of this section pursuant to subsection 6, the department shall conduct a review of the effectiveness of the green crab only wholesale dealer license and submit a report to the 134th Legislature in 2030. The report must include the department's recommendations concerning possible continuation or modification of the green crab only wholesale dealer license.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a green crab only wholesale dealer license that allows a license holder to, in wholesale trade, buy, sell, process, ship or transport green crabs purchased directly from harvesters in this State. Current law allows a person to engage in these activities under a wholesale seafood license, which has a minimum license fee of \$192.75. The license fee for a green crab only wholesale dealer license is \$50.

The bill provides that a person who engages in these activities without a proper license is subject to a penalty established by the Department of Marine Resources, and the department may suspend or revoke the license.

The bill includes a sunset provision, which repeals the legislation January 1, 2031. The bill directs the department to conduct a review of the effectiveness of the green crab only wholesale dealer license prior to the repeal date. The department is required to submit to

1 the 134th Legislature in 2030 a report of the review, including any recommendations to
2 continue or modify the license.