



# 125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2012

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Legislative Document

No. 1654

S.P. 553

In Senate, December 21, 2011

### An Act To Establish the Seafood Export Certification Program

(EMERGENCY)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 19, 2011. Referred to the Committee on Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

*Joseph G. Carleton Jr.*

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock.  
Cosponsored by Representative PARRY of Arundel and  
Senators: RECTOR of Knox, SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin, Representatives: BEAVERS  
of South Berwick, CHAPMAN of Brooksville, LUCHINI of Ellsworth, MALABY of  
Hancock, OLSEN of Phippsburg, TILTON of Harrington.

1           **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not  
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3           **Whereas,** current restrictions on the international export of seafood require the  
4 seafood to be certified by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

5           **Whereas,** due to limited resources at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
6 Administration, persons who fish commercially in the State often are required to wait for  
7 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to certify the seafood and issue the  
8 certificate needed for international export; and

9           **Whereas,** the time spent waiting results in reduced productivity for persons who fish  
10 commercially in the State; and

11           **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within  
12 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as  
13 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
14 therefore,

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

16           **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6043** is enacted to read:

17           **§6043. Seafood Export Certification Program**

18           The Seafood Export Certification Program, referred to in this section as "the  
19 program," is established to allow the department, in conjunction with the United States  
20 Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to inspect  
21 and certify seafood products for international export. The commissioner may enter into  
22 agreements with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and seafood  
23 producers for the issuance of certificates of compliance necessary to meet international  
24 regulations.

25           The commissioner shall adopt routine technical rules, as defined in Title 5, chapter  
26 375, subchapter 2-A, to implement the program.

27           **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this  
28 legislation takes effect when approved.

29   **SUMMARY**

30           This bill establishes the Seafood Export Certification Program in the Department of  
31 Marine Resources to allow the department, in conjunction with the United States  
32 Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to inspect  
33 and certify seafood and issue certificates of compliance necessary to meet international  
34 export standards.