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Date: (Filing No. H-)

MARINE RESOURCES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1414, L.D. 1908, “An Act To Limit Eligibility for Commercial Menhaden Fishing Licenses”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6502-C, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Commercial menhaden fishing license eligibility in 2023. The commissioner may not issue a 2023 resident commercial menhaden fishing license or a 2023 nonresident commercial menhaden fishing license to an individual unless that individual:

A. Possessed a license to fish commercially for menhaden in at least 2 of the following 3 years, 2019, 2020 or 2021; and

B. According to department records, reported legal landings of menhaden of 25,000 pounds or more in at least one of the following 4 years, 2019, 2020, 2021 or 2022.

Documentation, acceptable to the department, showing that the landing requirement in this paragraph has been met must be submitted to the department by January 1, 2023.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6502-C, sub-§1-B is enacted to read:

1-B. Commercial menhaden fishing license eligibility after 2023. The commissioner may not issue a resident commercial menhaden fishing license or a nonresident commercial menhaden fishing license to an individual in any year subsequent to 2023 unless that individual possessed that license in the previous calendar year.

Sec. 3. Report. By January 15, 2023, the Commissioner of Marine Resources shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters with details on the implementation of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6502-C, subsections 1-A and 1-B. The committee has the authority to report out a bill to the 131st Legislature in 2023 based on the report.'

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, changes the requirements for a 2023 commercial menhaden fishing license. An individual may obtain a license if the individual possessed a commercial menhaden license in at least 2 of the following 3 years, 2019, 2020 or 2021; and reported legal landings to the Department of Marine Resources, by January 1, 2023, of 25,000 pounds or more in at least one of the following 4 years, 2019, 2020, 2021 or 2022. It also requires the department to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters by January 15, 2023 and gives the committee the authority to report out a bill to the Legislature based on the report.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)