

STATE OF MAINE

—  
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR

—  
S.P. 854 - L.D. 2026

**An Act to Authorize Medical Waivers for Menhaden Fishing Licenses**

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

**Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6310, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 266, Pt. A, §3, is further amended to read:

**1. Appeal of license denial.** A person who is denied a Class I, Class II or Class III lobster and crab fishing license because that person does not meet the eligibility requirements of section 6421, subsection 5, paragraph A; a person who is denied a handfishing sea urchin license, a sea urchin dragging license or a sea urchin hand-raking and trapping license because that person does not meet the eligibility requirements of section 6749-O, subsection 2-A; ~~or~~ a person who is denied a hand fishing scallop license or a scallop dragging license because that person does not meet the eligibility requirements of section 6706, subsection 2; or a person who is denied a resident commercial menhaden fishing license or a nonresident commercial menhaden fishing license because that person does not meet the eligibility requirements of section 6502-C, subsection 1-B may appeal to the commissioner under this section for a review of that license denial.

**Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6310, sub-§2, ¶D** is enacted to read:

D. A resident commercial menhaden fishing license or a nonresident commercial menhaden fishing license may be issued to a person on appeal only if a substantial illness or medical condition on the part of the person or a family member prevented that person from meeting the eligibility requirements for that license and the person documents that the person fished for menhaden while in possession of the same license within one year prior to the onset of the illness or medical condition. The person shall provide the commissioner with documentation from a physician describing the illness or other medical condition. A person must request an appeal under this paragraph within one year of the onset of the illness or medical condition.