



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 710

H.P. 479

House of Representatives, February 16, 2023

An Act to Fund the Lobster Legal Defense Fund

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 FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor.
Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and
Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, PARRY of Arundel, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of
Portland, WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor, Senator: MOORE of Washington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
3 allocations are made.

4 **MARINE RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF**

5 **Lobster Legal Defense Fund Z365**

6 Initiative: Provides one-time appropriations to support the State's lobster industry by
7 reimbursing a statewide association of individuals engaged in commercial lobster fishing
8 and the labor union representing individuals engaged in commercial lobster fishing in the
9 State for legal costs incurred and paid in legal proceedings involving the regulations of the
10 United States Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric
11 Administration implementing the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan.

12 GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
13 All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000
14		
15 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill provides one-time appropriations to support the State's lobster industry by
18 reimbursing a statewide association of individuals engaged in commercial lobster fishing
19 and the labor union representing individuals engaged in commercial lobster fishing in the
20 State for legal costs incurred and paid in legal proceedings involving the regulations of the
21 United States Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric
22 Administration implementing the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan.