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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**MARINE RESOURCES**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1327, L.D. 2065, “An Act to Amend Maine’s Aquaculture Leasing Laws”

Amend the bill in section 3 in paragraph B in the 4th line (page 2, line 6 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "department" the following: 'at least 30 days before the hearing'

Amend the bill in section 5 in the blocked paragraph in the 6th line (page 2, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "25" and inserting the following: '10'

Amend the bill in section 7 in subsection 12-D in paragraph E in the 2nd line (page 3, line 27 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "25" and inserting the following: '10'

Amend the bill in section 10 in subsection 6 in the 2nd line (page 4, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "25" and inserting the following: '10'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 10 the following:

**'Sec. 11. 12 MRSA §6072-A, sub-§18**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 93, §5, is further amended to read:

**18. Scientific lease renewal.** A limited-purpose lease for scientific research may be renewed. A scientific research lease renewal is an adjudicatory proceeding under Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 4, but a public hearing is not mandatory unless it is requested in writing by 25 10 or more persons. The commissioner may review multiple leases concurrently during the lease renewal process. The commissioner shall renew a limited-purpose lease for scientific research unless the commissioner finds that:

- A. The ~~lease holder~~ leaseholder has not complied with the terms of the limited-purpose lease;
- B. Research has not been conducted during the term of the lease; or
- C. It is not in the best interest of the State to renew the limited-purpose lease.'

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 amends the provisions of the bill and current law to standardize the number of persons required to request a hearing on an aquaculture lease renewal or limited-purpose aquaculture lease application or renewal, setting that number at 10 persons. It also requires that public hearing notices be published at least 30 days before the public hearing.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

**(See attached)**