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LD 144

I am writing in opposition to this bill.

There have been an increasing number of reports of vibrio, campylobactor, and other shellfish diseases that impact human health. Our system in Maine is currently based on fixed location dealers/sellers that are inspected and subject to "surprise" inspections. This system protects consumers and the industry as a whole.

This proposal creates a "mobile" dealer license that can be either a car or boat. While the DMR can regulate the standards for these vehicles, how will there be enforcement? How can Marine Patrol or other DMR representatives inspect these vehicles in real time? The answer is they cannot. This proposed bill essentially creates a dealer with an honor system for enforcement which is contrary to current policy and the health of consumers.

This bill should not be approved. If approved, it should be amended to require the license holder to notify the DMR of when and where sales will be conducted so that random and regular inspections can be conducted to preserve public safety.

Thank you.