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April 3, 2025

*Testimony of Representative Holly Eaton introducing*

**LD 1176: An Act to Provide for the Sustainable Management of Marine  
Resources and Create a Noncommercial Northern Shrimp License**

*Before the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources*

Senator Tepler, Representative Hepler, and colleagues on the Marine Resources Committee,

Good afternoon. For the record, I'm Representative Holly Eaton, I live in Deer Isle and I proudly represent the coastal and island towns of House District 15. I'm here today as the sponsor of LD 1176, a Department bill brought forward by the Department of Marine Resources.

This bill offers a thoughtful update to the statute governing emerging fisheries—recognizing that as ocean conditions shift, Maine needs flexible, science-based tools to respond to new opportunities like black sea bass, while ensuring sustainability and accountability from the start. It also addresses a licensing gap for northern shrimp, setting the stage for responsible access should the fishery return in the future.

These are smart, forward-thinking changes that will help position Maine to manage new or returning fisheries responsibly. I'm glad to support DMR's work on this, and I encourage the committee to give the proposal its full consideration.

Thank you, and I'll leave the details to the experts following me.

District 15: Brooklin, Deer Isle, Eagle Island Township, Frenchboro, Southwest Harbor,  
Stonington, Swan's Island, Tremont, Isle au Haut, Vinalhaven