Cameron Reny
Senator, District 13

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Testimony of Sen. Cameron Reny introducing
LD 1319, "An Act to Amend the Law Regarding the Suspension of Licenses Issued by the Department of Marine Resources for Failure to Comply with Reporting Requirements"
before the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources
April 17, 2025

Senator Tepler, Representative Hepler, and honorable colleagues on the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources, I am Senator Cameron Reny, and I represent District 13, which includes most of Lincoln County and the towns of Washington and Windsor. Today, I am presenting LD 1319, "An Act to Amend the Law Regarding the Suspension of Licenses Issued by the Department of Marine Resources for Failure to Comply with Reporting Requirements."

This bill from the Department of Marine Resources would allow the Department to suspend a license during the fishing season for failure to submit daily harvest reports. These reports are currently required for the herring and menhaden fisheries, which are subject to quotas that must be monitored in real time.

As it stands now, the Department has no license suspension process for daily reporting, so it can only compel compliance when licenses come up for renewal each spring. This is often too late if quotas have been exceeded.

To put it simply — the Department cannot monitor quotas in real-time and prevent fishing over quote without daily reports. LD 1319 would create a process to suspend a license for failing to provide daily reports. The suspension would be lifted immediately upon the provision of the missing reports. Once in compliance, license holders can go right back to fishing.

There will be testimony from the Department and others coming behind me, and I ask that you direct further technical questions to them.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cameron Reny
State Senator, District 13
Representing Lincoln County and the towns of Washington and Windsor