



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 585

H.P. 404

House of Representatives, February 21, 2013

An Act To Require the Development of a Statewide Approach to Seaweed Management

Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative WINCHENBACH of Waldoboro.
Cosponsored by Senator JOHNSON of Lincoln.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6803-C, sub-§12** is enacted to read:

3 **12. Repeal.** This section is repealed 90 days after the adjournment of the Second
4 Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

5 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6807**, as reallocated by RR 1999, c. 1, §19, is amended to read:

6 **§6807. Seaweed harvesting rules**

7 The commissioner may adopt rules regulating the harvest of seaweed on a species-
8 specific basis, including, but not limited to, the total number of licenses that may be
9 issued, the designation of a harvesting season or seasons, the quantity of the resource that
10 may be harvested in a season, areas that may be open or closed to harvest, the designation
11 of sectors, limitations on harvest by sector, establishment of a process for allocation to
12 sectors and gear and techniques that may be used in harvesting. Rules adopted under this
13 section are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter ~~H-A~~ 2-A.

14 **Sec. 3. Statewide fisheries management plan for seaweed.** The
15 Commissioner of Marine Resources shall develop a statewide fisheries management plan
16 for seaweed pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6171, subsection
17 2-A and shall present that plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources no
18 later than January 31, 2014.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill repeals the laws establishing the Cobscook Bay Rockweed Management
21 Area 90 days after the adjournment of the Second Regular Session of the 126th
22 Legislature. The bill also directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to develop a
23 fisheries management plan for a consistent approach to the management of seaweed
24 harvesting throughout the State and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine
25 Resources no later than January 31, 2014.