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MARINE RESOURCES

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 591, L.D. 1549, Bill, “An Act To Provide an Exemption for Incidentally Caught Lobsters”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the emergency clause and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6501, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. Incidentally caught lobsters. The holder of a commercial fishing license may take, possess or sell lobsters pursuant to section 6952-A, subsection 3, paragraph C.

This subsection is repealed September 1, 2016.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6952-A, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2011, c. 266, Pt. A, §22, is further amended to read:

3. Exceptions; boats. This section does not apply to:

A. A boat rigged for dragging, trawling, dredging or seining if all nets, drags and dredges are removed from the boat; ~~or~~

B. A boat rigged for netting if there are no finfish taken by gill net aboard; or

C. A boat participating in the federal northeast multispecies fishery under 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 648 (2012) or successor regulations if all fishing activity during the trip has occurred in the federal lobster management area Area 2/3 Overlap or EEZ Offshore Management Area 3 delineated under 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 697 (2012). A lobster taken under this paragraph may not be first landed in this State.

This paragraph is repealed September 1, 2016.'

SUMMARY

This amendment repeals after 3 years the exception provided in the bill that allows the holder of a commercial fishing license fishing exclusively in specific lobster management areas under federal jurisdiction to take, possess or sell lobsters. This

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 591, L.D. 1549

1 amendment also clarifies that the lobsters permitted to be taken under the bill may not be
2 first landed in Maine.