



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 342

H.P. 240

House of Representatives, February 8, 2021

**An Act To Establish a Permanent Appointment of a Member of the
Wabanaki Tribes to the Marine Resources Advisory Council**

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 4, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative NEWELL of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.
Cosponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox and
Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, EVANGELOS of Friendship, PERRY of Calais,
PLUECKER of Warren, WARREN of Scarborough, Senators: MAXMIN of Lincoln, MOORE
of Washington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6024, sub-§1-A**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 225, §3, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **1-A. Appointment; composition; term; compensation.** The Marine Resources
5 Advisory Council, established by Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 27, consists of ~~15~~
6 16 members. The chair of the Lobster Advisory Council, the chair of the Sea Urchin Zone
7 Council and the chair of the Shellfish Advisory Council are ex officio members of the
8 council. Each other member is appointed by the Governor and is subject to review by the
9 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources
10 matters and to confirmation by the Legislature. Five members must be persons who are
11 licensed under this Part to engage in commercial harvesting activities. Those 5 members
12 are selected by the Governor from names recommended to the Governor by groups
13 representing commercial harvesting interests. Each member must represent a different
14 commercial harvesting activity, except that none of those 5 members may represent lobster
15 harvesters. The remaining ~~7~~ 8 members must include one public member, one member
16 who is a member of the Wabanaki Tribes, 4 persons who hold a nonharvesting-related
17 license under this Part, one person representing recreational saltwater anglers and one
18 person representing the aquaculture industry. The Governor shall select the person to
19 represent the aquaculture industry from among the names recommended by the aquaculture
20 industry. The Governor shall select the member who is a member of the Wabanaki Tribes
21 based on the recommendation of the tribal governments of the Wabanaki Tribes, including
22 the Aroostook Band of Micmacs, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the
23 Passamaquoddy Tribe at Motahmikuk, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik and the
24 Penobscot Nation. In recommending the appointment of the member who is a member of
25 the Wabanaki Tribes, the tribal governments of the Wabanaki Tribes shall establish a
26 process that provides for the membership to rotate among the tribal governments. The
27 composition of the council must reflect a geographical distribution along the coast. All
28 appointed members are appointed for a term of 3 years, except a vacancy must be filled in
29 the same manner as an original member for the unexpired portion of the term. An appointed
30 member may not serve for more than 2 consecutive terms. Appointed members serve until
31 their successors are appointed. The chair of the Lobster Advisory Council, the chair of the
32 Sea Urchin Zone Council and the chair of the Shellfish Advisory Council shall serve until
33 a new chair of the Lobster Advisory Council, a new chair of the Sea Urchin Zone Council
34 or a new chair of the Shellfish Advisory Council, respectively, is chosen. Members are
35 compensated as provided in Title 5, chapter 379.

36 **SUMMARY**

37 This bill increases the membership of the Marine Resources Advisory Council by
38 adding a member who represents the Wabanaki Tribes.