



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 711

H.P. 480

House of Representatives, February 16, 2023

An Act to Regulate Oyster Seed

Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DAVIS of East Machias, STROUT of Harrington, THORNE of Carmel, Senator: MOORE of Washington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6863-A** is enacted to read:

3 **§6863-A. Oyster seed; restrictions**

4 A holder of a lease or license under section 6072, 6072-A, 6072-B, 6072-C or 6863
5 that authorizes the culture of oysters may grow oysters only from triploid oyster seed.

6 For the purposes of this section, "triploid oyster seed" refers to oyster seed that yields
7 sterile oysters that do not reproduce.

8 **SUMMARY**

9 This bill restricts oyster farmers operating under a lease or license issued by the
10 Department of Marine Resources to growing oysters only from seed that yields sterile
11 oysters that do not reproduce.