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An Act To Modify the Boundaries of Maine's Lobster Fishing Zones

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6446, sub-§7 is enacted to read:

7. Three-mile limit. A zone established under subsection 1 may not extend beyond the 3-mile limit on coastal waters as established by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or successor federal agency. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, rules created under this section may not allow a holder of a lobster and crab fishing license declared for any particular zone more traps beyond the 3-mile limit than any other holder of a lobster and crab fishing license.

SUMMARY

This bill restricts lobster management zones from extending beyond the 3-mile limit as set by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and prohibits rules that would allow a holder of a lobster and crab fishing license declared for any particular zone more traps beyond the 3-mile limit than any other holder of a lobster and crab fishing license.