



# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1603

LR 2587(01)

**An Act Regarding Wet Storage Sites for Cultured Marine Organisms**

**Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill**

**Sponsor: Rep. Devin of Newcastle**

**Committee: Marine Resources**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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## **Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement**

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

### **Fiscal Detail and Notes**

The Department of Marine Resources will require an annual General Fund appropriation of \$83,600 starting in FY 15 for one position to oversee the development of the proposed rules and the new permitting system involving wet storage sites. This wet storage permit would allow aquaculture leaseholders and licensees to conduct wet storage of cultured organisms. There are currently 2 hearings officers employed by the department, one presides over rulemaking while the other presides over aquaculture lease hearings. The new hearings officer would assist in issuing over 100 applications for wet storage licenses, as well as with rulemaking governing these licenses.