



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 1143

H.P. 781

House of Representatives, March 31, 2015

An Act To Promote Protection of Intertidal Rockweed Habitat

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TUELL of East Machias.
Cosponsored by Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, BATTLE of South Portland, CHAPMAN of Brooksville, DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, KRUGER of Thomaston, MAKER of Calais, Senator: BAKER of Sagadahoc.

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

2 **CONCEPT DRAFT**

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

5 This bill proposes to enact measures to protect intertidal rockweed habitat by closing
6 conserved lands, including but not limited to national parks and wildlife refuges and state
7 parks, to commercial rockweed harvesting.

8 This bill further proposes to enact measures to protect intertidal rockweed habitat that
9 would allow a landowner to close certain lands for commercial rockweed harvest at that
10 landowner's discretion. A landowner would be permitted to close the following lands to
11 commercial rockweed harvest: land with use restrictions arising from a recorded
12 conservation easement; land owned by a land trust or other nongovernmental
13 conservation organization held for conservation purposes; municipal parks; land held by a
14 nonprofit entity with a research or educational mission, such as a coastal field station; and
15 wildlife management areas as defined by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section
16 10001, subsection 74.

17 This bill further proposes to enact measures to protect intertidal rockweed habitat that
18 would allow a municipality to close areas to commercial rockweed harvest upon approval
19 of the majority of voters in a municipal referendum.