STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND AND THIRTEEN

H.P. 423 - L.D. 604

An Act Regarding Commercial Elver Fishing Licenses Issued by the Penobscot Nation

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this legislation expands the availability of marine resources licenses for members of the Penobscot Nation; and

Whereas, it is important that these licenses be available during the spring because of the seasonal nature of harvesting certain marine species; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

- Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6302-A, sub-§3, ¶E, as amended by PL 2011, c. 598, §17, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:
 - E. The Penobscot Nation may not issue to members of the nation commercial licenses for the taking of elvers in any calendar year that exceed the following limits:
 - (1) Eight licenses that allow the taking of elvers with 2 pieces of gear, consisting of an elver fyke net and a dip net; and
 - (2) Forty licenses that allow the taking of elvers with one piece of gear only, consisting of either an elver fyke net or a dip net.

The commissioner shall by rule allow the Penobscot Nation to issue additional commercial licenses to members of the nation for the taking of elvers if the commissioner and the Penobscot Nation determine that elver resources are sufficient to permit the issuance of new licenses; and

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.