

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 6 FY 87/88
DATE September 25, 1987

AN ORDER CREATING
THE FISHERIES BY-PRODUCT TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, Maine's 15,000 licensed fishermen, operating 8,000 commercial vessels, landed 170 million pounds of seafood in 1986 valued at \$108 million; and

WHEREAS, Maine 1986 seafood landings produced over \$300 million of income within the state through the induced income effects of Maine's fisheries harvesting and processing activities; and

WHEREAS, Maine's groundfish and herring processors produce 50,000 tons of fish waste by-product annually; and

WHEREAS, the process utilized by conventional fisheries waste by-product rendering facilities has in several instances been incompatible with local communities; and

WHEREAS, the number of facilities in the northeastern United States capable of processing fisheries waste by-products has declined significantly since 1984 and the only remaining facility in Maine is threatened with imminent closure due to local concern; and

WHEREAS, the closure of this remaining facility represents a serious threat to the future of Maine's commercial fishing industry;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN R. MCKERNAN, JR., Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby create THE FISHERIES BY-PRODUCT TASK FORCE, the function and structure of which shall be as follows:

Purpose

The Task Force shall seek to achieve an industry consensus as to the most appropriate and cost effective alternatives which address immediate and long term fisheries by-product recovery needs in Maine, with emphasis upon those technologies which are compatible with community interests and which provide for business opportunities to be derived therefrom.

Membership

The Task Force shall be comprised of not more than twenty persons appointed by the Governor and to serve at his pleasure, including, without limitation, the following persons:

Commissioner of the Department of Marine Resources, Chair;
Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection;
Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources;
Director of the State Development Office;
Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of Maine.

In addition to the foregoing, the Task Force shall include no less than five representatives of the Commercial Fishing Industry in Maine and no less than three citizens at large.

Meetings

The Task Force shall meet upon the call of the Chair.

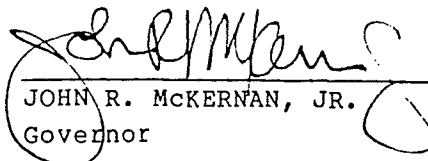
Compensation

Members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation. Reimbursement of all necessary expenditures incurred by members for their attendance of meetings of the Task Force or otherwise allowed by state law, shall be administered by the Department of Marine Resources.

Report

The preliminary report of the Task Force shall be submitted no later than January 1, 1988.

The effective date of this Order is September 25, 1987.


JOHN R. MCKERNAN, JR.
Governor