



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 65

H.P. 29

House of Representatives, January 8, 2025

An Act to Update the Definition of "Coastal Wetlands" Under the Natural Resources Protection Act

Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Received by the Clerk of the House on January 6, 2025. Referred to the Committee on
Environment and Natural Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant
to Joint Rule 401.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DOUDERA of Camden.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §480-B, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 330, §13, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **2. Coastal wetlands.** "Coastal wetlands" means all tidal and subtidal lands; all areas
5 with vegetation present that is tolerant of salt water and occurs primarily in a salt water or
6 estuarine habitat; and any swamp, marsh, bog, beach, flat or other contiguous lowland that
7 is subject to tidal action during the highest astronomical tide ~~level for the year in which an~~
8 ~~activity is proposed as identified in tide tables published as determined~~ by the United States
9 Department of Commerce, National Ocean—Service Oceanic and Atmospheric
10 Administration. Coastal wetlands may include portions of coastal sand dunes.

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This bill amends the definition of "coastal wetlands" in the Natural Resources
13 Protection Act.