

§6173-B. Special licenses; mandatory quality control program; shellfish sanitation and depuration certificates; confidentiality of proprietary information

Except as provided in subsections 1 and 2, information obtained by the department under this section is a public record as provided by Title 1, chapter 13, subchapter 1. [PL 2013, c. 512, §3 (NEW).]

1. Confidential information. Information submitted to the department pursuant to provisions regarding special licenses for research, aquaculture or education under section 6074, surveillance and inspection of all segments of the State's fishing industries under section 6102 or the shellfish sanitation certificate and the depuration certificate under section 6856 may be designated by the submitter as proprietary information and as being only for the confidential use of the department, its agents and employees, other agencies of State Government, as authorized by the Governor, and the Attorney General. The designation must be clearly indicated on each page or other unit of information. The commissioner shall establish procedures to ensure that information so designated is segregated from public records of the department. The department's public records must include the indication that information so designated has been submitted to the department, giving the name of the submitter and the general nature of the information. Upon a request for information the scope of which includes information so designated, the commissioner shall notify the submitter. Within 15 days after receipt of the notice, the submitter shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the department that the designated information should not be disclosed because the information is proprietary information. Unless such a demonstration is made, the information must be disclosed and becomes a public record. The department may grant or deny disclosure for all or any part of the designated information requested and within 15 days shall give written notice of the decision to the submitter and the person requesting the designated information. A person aggrieved by a decision of the department under this subsection may appeal to the Superior Court.

[PL 2013, c. 512, §3 (NEW).]

2. Release information. The commissioner may not release information designated under subsection 1 prior to the expiration of the time allowed for the filing of an appeal or to the rendering of the decision on any appeal.

[PL 2013, c. 512, §3 (NEW).]

3. Definition. For purposes of this section, "proprietary information" means information that is a trade secret or production, commercial or financial information the disclosure of which would impair the competitive position of the submitter and would make available information not otherwise publicly available.

[PL 2013, c. 512, §3 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2013, c. 512, §3 (NEW).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through January 1, 2025. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.