

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
(EMERGENCY)

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ONE-HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1687**

H. P. 1227

House of Representatives, November 27, 1961  
Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries suggested.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Pike of Lubec.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-ONE

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**AN ACT Extending the Sardine Canning Season for Two Years.**

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**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, the Maine sardine industry with 31 canneries located along the coast from Portland to Robbinston is in the midst of one of the most critically small packs in history, due to an acute shortage of fish; and

Whereas, this is causing widespread unemployment in the coastal areas, heavy financial losses to canners and fishermen, and a general disruption of long established markets on a national basis; and

Whereas, in view of this major crisis in an important Maine industry an extension of the present season is desirable in hopes that it will result in larger production and thereby help to alleviate some of the hardships and economic dislocations caused by uncontrollable natural conditions; 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. R. S., c. 32, § 258, amended.** The 3rd sentence of section 258 of chapter 32 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

'Said license shall run from April 15th to December 1st of each year, unless sooner revoked ~~as herein provided~~ and shall be renewed annually thereafter **except that in the year 1961 said license shall run to December 31st unless sooner revoked and except that in the year 1962 said license shall run from January 1st**

to December 31st unless sooner revoked and except that in the year 1963 said license shall run from January 1st to December 1st, unless sooner revoked.'

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 37-A, § 29, limitation.** The provisions of section 29 of chapter 37-A of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 331 of the public laws of 1959, regulating herring for canning purposes from December 1st to April 15th, are suspended until December 1, 1963.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.