

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 203

S. P. 111

In Senate, January 30, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

Presented by Senator Redmond of Somerset.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Decrease from 18 Inches to 16 Inches the Length Limit on Togue which
may be Taken from Moosehead Lake.**

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

12 MRSA § 2553, sub-§ 1, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 772, § 15, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

1. **Salmon or togue.** A salmon or togue less than 14 inches in length, except that the length limit on salmon taken from any of the waters in Aroostook County shall be 12 inches and the length limit on togue taken from Moosehead Lake shall be 16 inches;

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill establishes the length limit on togue taken from Moosehead Lake at 16 inches, instead of the present 18 inches established by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by regulation. Togue are deep-dwelling fish. Because of this, when hooked and brought to the surface they often die, even if they are released by the fisherman. This bill will help the togue stock in Moosehead Lake, because fishermen will keep the first 2 togue over 16 inches long they catch. Presently, they are catching and releasing togue between 16 and 18 inches, which will probably die anyway, until they catch their limit of togue over 18 inches in length.