

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1111

S.P. 333

In Senate, February 18, 1997

An Act to Protect Loons.

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CLEVELAND of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Senator TREAT of Kennebec, Representatives: FISK of Falmouth, USHER of Westbrook.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7608, as amended by PL 1987, c. 696, §17, is further amended to read:

§7608. Fishing with illegal implements or devices

A person is guilty of fishing with illegal implements or devices if he that person uses any fish spawn, grapnel, spear, spear gun, trawl, weir, gaff, seine, gill net, trap or set lines for fishing or if that person uses any electronic or battery-powered devices for luring or attracting fish, except that a person may take suckers, eels, hornpout, alewives, yellow perch and cusk in accordance with section 7153 and except as otherwise provided.

After January 1, 1998, a person is guilty of fishing with illegal implements or devices if that person uses an artificial lure or sinker for fishing that contains any lead or zinc and that either weighs less than 2 ounces or measures less than one inch along its longest axis.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7609, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 420, §1, is amended to read:

§7609. Possession of illegal implements and devices

A person is guilty of possession of illegal implements and devices if he that person possesses any grapnel, trawl, weir, seine, gill net or trap or set line in any lodge or place of resort for hunters or fishermen anglers or in its immediate vicinity, or on any of the inland waters of the State, or in their immediate vicinity, in the inland territory of the State, except that a person may possess these prohibited implements and devices in accordance with sections 7153, 7241 and 7771.

After January 1, 1998, a person is guilty of possession of illegal implements and devices if that person possesses an artificial lure or sinker that contains any lead or zinc and that either weighs less than 2 ounces or measures less than one inch along its longest axis in any lodge or place of resort for hunters or anglers or in its immediate vicinity, or on any of the inland waters of the State or in their immediate vicinity.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits the use and possession after January 1, 1998, of artificial lures and sinkers that contain any lead or zinc and that weigh less than 2 ounces or measure less than one inch along their longest axis.