

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE - HUNDRETH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1481

H. P. 1074

House of Representatives, March 7, 1961

Reported by Mr. Prince from Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries. Printed under Joint Rules No. 10.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-ONE

AN ACT Regulating Catching Lobsters While Swimming or Diving.

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

R. S., c. 37-A, § 68-A, additional. Chapter 37-A of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 331 of the public laws of 1959, is amended by adding a new section to be numbered 68-A, to read as follows:

'Sec. 68-A. Catching lobsters by other than conventional method illegal. It is unlawful to fish for or catch lobsters from the coastal waters of the State by any method other than the conventional method of lobster traps or pots.

I. Exception if lobster immediately liberated alive when caught. If any lobster so caught or taken is immediately liberated alive into coastal waters, then the person so liberating the lobster is excused from the unlawful taking or catching of it.

II. Definition. A "lobster trap or pot" for the purposes of this section shall be held to mean a stationary device set on the ocean bottom and commonly used along the Maine coast for catching lobsters.'

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The lobster fishery of Maine, being Maine's most valuable fishery, is hereby declared to be a commercial and not a sport operation. Lobsters should be taken only by the conventional method of traps on the bottom attached to buoys at the surface.