

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(New Title)  
New Draft of: S. P. 191, L. D. 552

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1370**

S. P. 513

In Senate, March 19, 1971

Reported by Senator Hoffses of Knox from Committee on Fisheries and  
Wildlife and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-ONE

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**AN ACT to Prohibit the Importing and Introduction to Our Coastal Waters  
of Any Uncertified Marine Species.**

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

R. S., T. 12, § 4211, additional. Title 12 of the Revised Statutes is amended  
by adding a new section 4211 to read as follows:

§ 4211. Importing marine species

No person shall introduce or import for introduction into any of the coastal waters of this State any live marine species, either fish, shellfish, crustacea or aquatic plant life, or the eggs from any of said species, or have in possession any such fish, eggs or marine species so introduced or imported without written permission of the Commissioner of Sea and Shore Fisheries. The commissioner may grant permits and establish rules and regulations for the importation of live marine species, fish, eggs or aquatic plants into the State. Importers shall, when requesting a permit, provide the commissioner with information as to the number and species to be imported, the name and address of the source and a statement from a recognized pathologist or biologist, either of a state conservation department, the National Marine Fisheries Service or United States Fish and Wildlife Service, certifying the particular species to be imported are free from bacteria, fungus, virus or any other infectious or contagious disease, or parasites, predators or other organisms that might be dangerous to indigenous marine life or the environment. Such statement shall accompany each request for permission to import any marine species, the eggs thereof or any aquatic plant.

**A violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 or by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or by both.**

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

There is no law now to prohibit anyone from importing and introducing to our coastal waters any marine species which have not first been approved and certified to be free from disease, parasites, predators or other marine organisms that might be dangerous to native marine life or the environment. Such laws do exist for the importing of fresh water species. This, if passed, would prohibit the introduction of any species into our waters from any outside source which might be carrying a disease, predator or some parasite which could be transmitted to our native species, and which would be detrimental to our environment.