

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1443

H. P. 1107

House of Representatives, March 12, 1973

Referred to the Committee on Marine Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Greenlaw of Stonington.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

**AN ACT to Establish Lobster Fishing Districts, Closed Season on Lobsters
and to Limit Number of Traps which May be Fished.**

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 12, § 4467, additional. Title 12 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 4467 to read as follows:

§ 4467. Lobster fishing districts established

The area along that portion of the coast and the waters thereof, between the Maine-New Hampshire boundary, and a line extending 180° magnetic seaward from Cape Elizabeth, Two Lights, and including all waters and islands within the jurisdiction of the State, shall be lobster fishing district number 1.

The area along that portion of the coast and the waters thereof, between the eastern boundary of district 1 at Cape Elizabeth, Two Lights, to a line extending 180° magnetic seaward from Pemaquid Point Light, and including all the waters and islands within the jurisdiction of the State, shall be lobster fishing district number 2.

The area along that portion of the coast and the waters thereof, between the eastern boundary of district number 2 at Pemaquid Point Light, to the Maine-Canadian boundary, and including all waters and islands within the jurisdiction of the State shall be lobster fishing district number 3.

1. Closed season on fishing for lobsters. It shall be unlawful to set, raise, lift, transfer or to have in the waters of this State any lobster pots, traps or other contrivances used for the taking of lobsters in lobster fishing district

number 1 from the period between January 15th and March 15th of each year; nor in lobster fishing district number 2 from January 15th to March 15th of each year; nor in lobster fishing district number 3 from January 15th to March 15th of each year.

2. Number of traps limited. It shall be unlawful for any person to set, raise, lift, transfer or have in the water within the jurisdiction of this State within the bounds of lobster fishing district number 1, more than 400 lobster pots or traps; nor within the bounds of lobster fishing district number 2, more than 600 lobster pots or traps; nor within the bounds of lobster fishing district number 3, more than 300 lobster pots or traps, except as provided in this section.

A. Exception. Any owner and licensee of any boat or vessel engaged in lobster fishing who takes another licensed person or persons to assist him may increase the trap limit as established for their lobster fishing district by no more than 100 traps.

3. Penalty. Whoever violates any provisions of this section shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1000 or by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or by both, and in addition, the commissioner shall suspend the offender's lobster fishing license for a period of one year from date of conviction. All lobster pots or traps found in the waters within the jurisdiction of the State in violation of any provisions of this section shall be forfeited to the State, and any lobsters or crabs found therein.

Sec. 2. Effective date. This Act shall become effective January 1, 1974.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this Act is to establish lobster fishing districts, closed seasons in the lobster fishing districts and to limit the number of traps which may be fished therein.