

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
106TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT " A " to S. P. 942, L. D. 2587,
Bill, "AN ACT to Provide for a Moratorium on the
Issuance of Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses."

Amend said Bill by inserting before the
enacting clause the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of
the Legislature do not become effective until
90 days after adjournment unless enacted as
emergencies; and

Whereas, the lobster fishing license statute
has recently been challenged and the resolution
of that dispute will not occur until after this
Legislature has adjourned; and

Whereas, the unresolved controversy regarding
the statute has created uncertainty regarding the
future efficacy of that statute; and

Whereas, the licensing statute has been
essential to the conservation of the lobster
resource and the annual decline of the landings
of that resource indicates the serious overfishing
of that resource; and

Whereas, this Legislature will not have
opportunity to undertake the deliberations
necessary to resolve these matters before
adjournment; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,
these facts create an emergency within the
meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require
the following legislation as immediately
necessary for the preservation of the public
peace, health and safety; now, therefore, '

(Filing No. H-782)

Further amend said Bill by striking out all of that part designated subsection 9 of section 1 and inserting in place thereof the following:

'9. License freeze. On and after May 15, 1974, lobster and crab fishing licenses shall be issued only to license holders of record with the Department of Marine Resources, which were issued for the calendar year ending December 31, 1973 and which were issued in 1974 prior to May 15, 1974.'

Further amend said Bill by inserting at the end before the Statement of Fact the following:

'Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is:

1. To make the bill an emergency; and
2. Change the effective date to May 15, 1974.

Filed by Mr. Greenlaw of Stonington.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
3/21/74

(Filing No. H-782)