MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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H. P. 235   House of Representatives, February 9, 1977
  Referred to Committee on Marine Resources. Sent up for concurrence
and ordered printed.
                                             EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
  Presented by Mr. Silsby of Ellsworth.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Conserve the Marine Worm Population by Limiting Commercial Marine Worm Digging from November 25th to March 1st of Each Year.

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

12 MRSA § 4301-D is enacted to read:

§ 4301-D.   Marine worms; closed season

   It is unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to buy, sell or take marine worms from the 25th day of November of each year to the first day of the following March. Notwithstanding this provision, any person may take marine worms from the 25th day of November of each year to the first day of the following March, provided he does not take more than 125 marine worms in any one day, and takes them for his own personal use.

   1.   Penalty.   The penalties provided in section 4301-B apply to any violation of this section.

STATEMENT OF FACT

   The purpose of this bill is to prohibit the commercial digging and dealing in marine worms from November 25th of each year to the following March 1st. This bill would not prohibit the digging of marine worms during that period for personal use.

   Worms represent one of Maine's marine resources and, as such, steps must be taken to insure that the population of marine worms is not unnecessarily destroyed. Through the control of marine worm digging, Maine will insure that the marine worms will continue to provide Maine with an economic and environmental advantage for years to come.