

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1139

H. P. 944

House of Representatives, March 22, 1977

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Bunker of Gouldsboro.

Cosponsors: Mr. Greenlaw of Stonington and Mr. Perkins of Blue Hill.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Allow Escape of Sublegal Lobsters from Lobster or Crab Traps.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA § 4468 is enacted to read:

§ 4468. Escapement of sublegal lobsters from lobster or crab traps

It is unlawful to fish for or take lobsters by use of a lobster or crab trap unless the trap is equipped with a rectangular escape vent not less than $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches (44.5 mm) by 6 inches, (152.4 mm) or 2 circular escape vents not less than $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches, (57.2 mm) in diameter or by raising a bottom lath in the parlor end $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches that would allow sublegal lobsters to escape; the escape vents shall be installed in the parlor section on the side or end next to the sill.

1. Escape vent. It is unlawful to set, raise, haul or transfer any lobster or crab trap unless the trap is equipped with an escape vent as provided in this section.

Sec. 2. Effective date. This Act shall become effective January 1, 1979.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to allow escapement of sublegal lobsters from lobster or crab traps.