

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 425

H. P. 321

House of Representatives, February 7, 1979

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Vose of Eastport.

Cosponsors: Mr. Nelson of Rogue Bluffs, Mr. Gillis of Calais, and Mr. Fenlason of Danforth.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Reguire the Purse Seine Season in Washington County to Close on
September 15th.**

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

12 MRSA § 6571, sub-§ 2, as amended by PL 1977, c. 713, § 6 is further amended to read:

2. **Purse seines prohibited.** From April 10th to ~~October 15th~~ **September 15th**, both days inclusive, it shall be unlawful to use a purse seine. **The commissioner may by regulation allow the use of a purse seine during this period in specific areas and with specific limitations, if he finds that the use is necessary to provide fish to processors and that it will not create undue hardships to fixed gear fishermen in the area.** This subsection shall not prohibit the seining of mackeral or the use of a purse seine to remove the fish caught in a weir or stop seine.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill opens the purse seine season in Washington County a month earlier, on September 15th. The bill also allows opening during the closed season to meet emergencies.