

STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES llOTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

(Filing No. H-497)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 474, L.D. 538, Bill, "AN ACT Concerning the Regulation of Atlantic Salmon."

Amend the 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, following 10 years of intensive efforts to clean up our waterways and to restore native fisheries, the Atlantic salmon is returning to Maine rivers; and

Whereas, the restoration of this majestic fish has created great interest and consequent fishing pressure on the resources; and

Whereas, there are few controls on taking Atlantic salmon in coastal waters, and without some controls fishing pressure may endanger the restoration effort; 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,'

/Amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6503 is enacted to read: §6503. Atlantic salmon

Further

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 474, L.D. 538

1. License required. A nonresident individual may fish for Atlantic salmon from the areas indicated in subsection 2, or take, possess, ship or transport these fish which he has taken if he has a current Atlantic salmon permit, in the form of a stamp, described in section 7152 and a current general fishing license described in section 7151.

2. Limit of application. This requirement shall apply in the following rivers, from the head of tide downstream to the line indicated:

A. Sheepscot River, above the Wiscasset-Edgecomb US. Route 1 Bridge;

B. Dennys River, above the upstream side of the US, Route 1 Bridge;

C. East Machias River, above the upstream side of the lowermost bridge in East Machias Village;

D. Machias River, above the upstream side of the Rim Bridge, lower-most bridge on the Machias River;

E. Pleasant River, above the upstream side of the main river bridge in Addison;

F. Narraguagus River, above the upstream side of the Route 1A bridge in Milbridge;

G. Union River, above the upstream side of the US, Routel bridge in Ellsworth;

H. Penobscot River, above the upstream side of the Joshua Chamberlain Bridge in Bangor; and

I. Ducktrap River, above the 2 red posts set on the shores approximately 1,000 feet downstream from the US. Route 1 bridge.

3. Repeal. This section is repealed on December 31. 1981

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "/" to H.P. 474, L.D. 538

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Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6553, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Bag limit. It shall be unlawful to take more than one Atlantic salmon in one day, or to possess more than 2 Atlantic salmon. This subsection is repealed on December 31, 1981.

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

Statement of Fact

This amendment requires nonresidents fishing for Atlantic salmon in areas restricted to rod and reel fishing to possess a current general fishing license and an Atlantic salmon stamp.

Reported by the Committee on Marine Resources. Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

5/28/81

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