

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 538

H. P. 474

House of Representatives, February 2, 1981

Speaker laid before the House and Referred to the Committee on Marine Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Kelleher of Bangor.

Cosponsors: Representative Gillis of Calais, Representative Peterson of Caribou and Representative Vose of Eastport.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT Concerning the Regulation of Atlantic Salmon.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA § 6124 is enacted to read:

§ 6124. Waters closed to fishing

Except as provided under section 6131 or as the commissioner may by rule provide, the area within 150 feet of any part of a fishway shall be closed to fishing at all times.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA § 6255 is enacted to read:

§ 6255. Atlantic salmon permit

1. **Issuance.** The Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission shall issue an Atlantic salmon permit to fish for or catch Atlantic salmon in all waters of the State. This permit allows the taking of 5 Atlantic salmon in any one calendar year. Immediately upon catching and killing an Atlantic salmon, the permit holder shall attach a tag in a manner directed and with the materials furnished by the Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission.

2. **Agent's fee.** Any clerk or agent appointed by the Atlantic Sea Run Salmon

Commission to issue Atlantic salmon permits shall retain \$1 for each permit issued.

3. Schedule of fees. Fees are subject to the following schedule.

A. The fee for an Atlantic salmon permit is \$5 for any resident 16 years of age or older.

B. The fee for an Atlantic salmon permit is \$25 for any nonresident 16 years of age or older.

C. Members of Maine's Indian tribes are exempt from any fee.

4. Use of permit fees. All proceeds, except for necessary expenses for issuing, shall be paid to the Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission for the purposes of developing the Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Restoration Program.

5. Restrictions. An Atlantic salmon permit shall be kept upon the person while fishing for or transporting Atlantic salmon.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA § 6256 is enacted to read:

§ 6256. Sale of Atlantic salmon

Any Atlantic sea run salmon taken by angling may only be used for domestic use and may not be sold or bartered. This does not apply to Atlantic sea run salmon which have been lawfully taken by other means within the State or which have been lawfully imported from without the State.

Sec. 4. 12 MRSA § 7152, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 420, § 1, is repealed.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purposes of this bill are: 1. To establish a permit that would be required to fish for salmon in all waters of the State. Presently, the law only covers fishing in inland waters; 2. To establish a season bay limit of 5 salmon with a tagging system to enable enforcement of that limit; 3. To increase the present fee schedule; 4. To prevent the sale of salmon caught by angling in all waters of the State; and 5. To close to all fishing the area in the immediate vicinity of any fishway or tidewater.