

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 272

7 H.P. 231

House of Representatives, January 29, 1985

8 Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint
9 Rule 24.

10 Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered
printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Crowley of Stockton Springs.

Cosponsored by Representative Coles of Harpswell.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE
16

17 AN ACT to Authorize the Sale of Frozen
18 Lobster Tails.
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6431, sub-§4, as enacted by PL
23 1977, c. 661, §5, is amended to read:

24 4. Mutilation. It shall be unlawful to possess
25 any lobster, or part thereof, which is mutilated in a
26 manner which makes accurate measurement impossible,
27 except that any person, firm or corporation may pos-
28 sess lobster tails removed under section 6862.

29 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6862 is enacted to read:

30 §6862. Lobster tail permit

31 1. Current lobster tail permit. It is unlawful
32 for any person to engage in the activities authorized
33 by a permit issued under this section without a cur-

1 rent lobster tail permit.

2 2. Permitted activity. A lobster tail permit au-
3 thorizes a wholesale seafood license holder to remove
4 lobster tail in the shell from lobster under the fol-
5 lowing conditions.

6 A. The lobster tails shall only be processed at
7 the establishment named in the permit.

8 B. The tails shall only come from legal sized
9 lobsters, as defined in section 6431.

10 C. All containers in which lobster tails are
11 packed to be sold, shipped or transported shall
12 be clearly labeled with the name, address and
13 permit number of the packer.

14 3. Permit limitation. A permit shall only autho-
15 rize these activities at one location or place of
16 business.

17 4. Regulations. The commissioner may adopt such
18 regulations as are deemed necessary for implementa-
19 tion and enforcement of this section. These regula-
20 tions may include provisions for determining that
21 lobster tails processed under this section were re-
22 moved from legal sized lobsters and other provisions
23 as may be deemed necessary.

24 STATEMENT OF FACT

25 About 12 Maine lobster dealers presently whole-
26 sale and retail frozen lobster tails. This trade
27 amounts to perhaps \$400,000 to \$500,000 annually. It
28 is illegal under present law. The trade is benefi-
29 cial to the lobster industry. This bill authorizes
30 the trade and sets the conditions under which it is
31 carried on.

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