

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 (New Draft of S.P. 207, L.D. 536)  
2 (New Title)  
3 (EMERGENCY)  
4 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
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6 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
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8 Legislative Document

No. 1469

10 S.P. 551

In Senate, May 7, 1985

11 Reported by Senator Shute of Waldo from the Committee on Marine  
12 Resources and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill sponsored by Senator  
13 Perkins of Hancock. Cosponsored by Representative Foster of Ellsworth,  
Representative Conners of Franklin and Representative Crowley of Stockton  
Springs.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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

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17 AN ACT Relating to Fishing by Net, Trap or  
18 Weir in the Waters of Union River Bay and the  
19 Lower Union River in Hancock County.

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24 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legis-  
25 lature do not become effective until 90 days after  
26 adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

27 Whereas, a significant private investment has  
28 been made in rejuvenating the commerical alewife  
29 fishery on the Union River; and

30 Whereas, the reestablished fishery which has been  
31 built up entirely through private investment may be  
32 threatened by uncontrolled fishing in the Union River  
33 Bay; and

1           Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,  
2 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of  
3 the Constitution of Maine and require the following  
4 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-  
5 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
6 therefore,

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

9           12 MRSA §6955 is enacted to read:

10 §6955. Fishing in waters of Union River Bay and the  
11 lower Union River

12           It is unlawful to fish with any type of net, fish  
13 trap or weir from April 15th to August 1st in the  
14 tidal waters of Union River Bay and the lower Union  
15 River north of a line drawn from the southernmost tip  
16 of Newbury Neck in the Town of Surry and extended  
17 eastward to the southernmost tip of Oak Point in the  
18 Town of Trenton. The closed area shall extend  
19 northward to the downstream side of the Bangor  
20 Hydropower Company dam in the City of Ellsworth.  
21 Fishing for eels or smelts by means of hand dip nets,  
22 fyke nets or baited eel traps shall be exempt from  
23 this section. The taking of alewives under the provi-  
24 sions of section 6131, subsection 5, shall be exempt  
25 from this section.

26           **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited  
27 in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when ap-  
28 proved.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of the new draft is to clarify the boundaries of the closed area. The new draft also provides exemptions for eel and smelt fishing and does not affect in any way the existing lobstering activity. Sport fishing is not affected by this new draft.

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