MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(New Draft of H.P. 937, L.D. 1253) (New Title) FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1710

H.P. 1252 House of Representatives, June 1, 1987 Reported by Representative RUHLIN from the Committee on Marine Resources and printed under Joint Rule 2. EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Original bill sponsored by Representative McGOWAN of Canaan. Cosponsored by Representative WEYMOUTH of West Gardiner, Senators DOW of Kennebec and CAHILL of Sagadahoc.

STATE OF MAINE

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

	 AN ACT to Regulate Freshwater Fisheries in Coastal Waters.
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4 5	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
6 7	Sec. 1. 12 MRSA $\S6001$, sub- $\S17-A$ is enacted to read:
8	17-A. Freshwater fish. "Freshwater fish" means
9	the following fish species, when found in coastal wa-
0	ters as defined in subsection 6: Brown trout;
1	largemouth bass; smallmouth bass; black crappie;
2	rainbow trout; brook trout; chain pickerel; and land-
3	locked salmon.

1 2	Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6001, sub-§26, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 661, §5, is amended to read:
3 4 5	26. Marine organism. "Marine organism" means any animal, plant or other life that usually inhabits salt-water coastal waters.
6	Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6003 is enacted to read:
7	§6003. Coordination of fisheries management
8 9 10 11	The Commissioner of Marine Resources, in consultation with the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, may regulate the taking of freshwater fish species in coastal waters. Rules shall be promul-
12	gated in accordance with section 6171. Whenever a
13	bag limit on freshwater fish species in coastal wa-
14	ters exists, as defined in section 6001, subsection
15	17-A, no person may possess more than one day's bag
16	limit, regardless of whether the fish are taken from

STATEMENT OF FACT

A wide variety of freshwater fish species reside in Maine's major rivers and bays below head of tide. Because these are coastal waters and regulated by the Department of Marine Resources no seasons, size or bag limits apply to these fish species.

inland or coastal waters.

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This new draft gives the Department of Marine Resources authority to regulate these freshwater species in coastal waters.

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