

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 234

S.P. 132

In Senate, February 1, 1991

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator ESTES of York.

Cosponsored by Representative MITCHELL of Freeport, Representative LOOK of Jonesboro and Senator HOLLOWAY of Lincoln.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Delay the Minimum Lobster Gauge Increases.

(EMERGENCY)



Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
as emergencies; and

Whereas, under current law, the minimum lobster size is
increased as of January 1, 1991; and

Whereas, the establishment of minimum lobster sizes has a
critical impact on commercial fishing competition; 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,

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6431, sub-§1, as repealed and replaced by PL
1985, c. 677, §§2, 6 and 7, is repealed and the following enacted
in its place:

1. Minimum and maximum length. It is unlawful to buy,
sell, give away, transport, ship or possess any lobster that is
less than the minimum size established by this subsection or more
than 5 inches in length, as determined by the state double gauge
lobster measure. The minimum size is as follows:

A. Effective January 1, 1991, the minimum size is 3 8/32
inches;

B. Effective March 1, 1993, the minimum size is 3 9/32
inches; and

C. Effective March 1, 1994, the minimum size is 3 10/32
inches.

Sec. 2. Public hearings on lobster measure. The Joint
Standing Committee on Marine Resources shall hold public hearings
between July 1, 1992 and October 1, 1992, to review the results
of any new research concerning the lobster measure, including any
federal lobster marketing study.

Sec. 3. Report. The Joint Standing Committee on Marine
Resources shall report any legislation necessary to change the
lobster measure pursuant to the investigation conducted in
section 2 of this Act to the Legislature by January 1, 1993.

Sec. 4. Retroactivity. This Act applies retroactively to
January 1, 1991.

