MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 803

S.P. 285

In Senate, January 28, 1999

An Act to Increase the Penalties for Violation of Lobster Conservation Laws.

Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 204. Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock. Cosponsored by Representative HONEY of Boothbay and Senator MacKINNON of York, Representatives: LEMONT of Kittery, McNEIL of Rockland, PIEH of Bremen, USHER of Westbrook, VOLENIK of Brooklin.

Be	it	enacted	by	the	Peo	ple	of	the	State	of	Maine	as	follows:
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- Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6431, sub-§7, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 661, §5, is amended to read:
- 7. Penalty. Possession of lobsters in violation of this section shall—be is a Class D crime, except that the court shall impose a fine of \$25 \$50 for each violation and, in addition, a fine of \$10 \$25 for each lobster involved, up to and including the first 5, and a fine of \$30 \$50 for each lobster in excess of 5, or, if the number of lobsters cannot be determined, a fine of not more than \$1,000.
- Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6432, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 413, §1, is amended to read:
- 5. Penalty for possession. Possession of lobsters other than caught by the method specified in subsection 1 is a Class D crime, except that in addition to any punishment that may be imposed under Title 17-A, Part 3, the court shall impose a fine of \$25 \$50 for each violation and, in addition, a fine of \$39 \$50 for each lobster involved.
 - Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6436, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 433, §9, is amended to read:
- 5. Penalty. Possession of lobsters in violation of this section is a Class D crime, except that in addition to any punishment which that may be imposed under Title 17-A, Part 3, the court shall impose a fine of \$25 \$50 for each violation and, in addition, a fine of \$30 \$50 for each lobster involved.
- Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §6438-A, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1995, c.
 34 468, §7, is amended to read:
- 36 2. Penalty. A violation of this section is a Class D crime, except that the court shall impose a fine of \$100 \$150 for each lobster.

40 SUMMARY

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This bill increases the monetary fines for conviction for violation of certain lobster conservation laws.