

Seventieth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 228

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND ONE.

AN ACT to amend section thirty-one of chapter two hundred and eighty-five of the Public Laws of 1897, relating to a weekly close time for the taking of fish.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

Section 1. Section thirty-one of chapter two hundred 2 and eighty-five of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred 3 and ninety-seven is hereby amended as follows : by adding 4 at the close of said section the following words, 'provided 5 however, that the weekly close time on the Damariscotta 6 river below the bridge at Damariscotta, shall be from sun-7 set on each Saturday night to 12 o'clock on the following 8 Sunday night,' so that said section as amended, shall read 9 as follows :

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Between the first day of April and the fif-'Sect. 31. 11 teenth day of July there shall be a weekly close time of 12 forty-eight hours from sunrise on each Saturday morning 13 to sunrise on the following Monday morning, during which 14 no salmon, shad, alewives or bass, shall be taken. During 15 the weekly close time, all seines, nets, and other movable 16 apparatus shall be removed from the water. Every weir 17 shall have, in that part where the fish are usually taken, 18 an opening three feet wide, extending from the bottom to 19 the top of the weir, and the netting or other material 20 which closes the same while fishing, shall be taken out, 21 carried on shore, and there remain during the weekly 22 close time, to the extent that during said close time the 23 fish may have a free and unobstructed passage through 24 such weir or other structure, and no contrivance which 25 tends to hinder such fish shall be placed in any part 26 thereof. If the inclosure where the fish are taken is fur-27 nished with a board floor, an opening extending from the 28 floor to the top of the weir is equivalent to one extending 29 from the bottom to the top. The penalty for the violation 30 of this section is twenty dollars for each offense. This 31 section does not apply to the Kennebec, Androscoggin or 32 Penobscot rivers or their tributaries, or to the St. Croix 33 river below the breakwater at the ledge. Provided how-34 ever, that the weekly close time on the Damariscotta river 35 below the bridge at Damariscotta, shall be from sunset on 36 each Saturday night to 12 o'clock on the following Sunday 37 night.'

Sect. 2. This act shall take effect when approved.

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STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

AUGUSTA, February 25, 1901.

Reported by Mr. THOMPSON of Bristol, from Committee on Shore Fisheries, and ordered printed under joint rules.

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W. S. COTTON, Clerk.