MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

HOUSE. No. 300

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to amend Section seventeen of Chapter forty-one of the Revised Statutes, relating to measurement of lobsters.

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

Section 1. Section seventeen of Chapter forty-one of the

- 2 Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the
- 3 word "catch" in the first line thereof; also by striking out the
- 4 words "ten and one-half" in the second line thereof and
- 5 inserting in their place the words 'four and three-fourths;'
- 6 also by striking out the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth lines
- 7 and the words "stretching or pulling" in the ninth line and

8 inserting in their place the following words: 'end of the bone 9 of the nose to the center of the rear end of the body shell,' 10 so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 17. No person shall buy or sell, give away or expose 12 for sale or possess for any purpose any lobster less than 13 four and three-fourths inches in length, alive or dead, cooked 14 or uncooked, measured in manner as follows: taking the 15 length of the back of the lobster measured from the end of 16 the bone of the nose to the center of the rear end of the body 17 shell; and any lobster shorter than the prescribed length when 18 caught shall be liberated alive at the risk and cost of the par-19 ties taking them, under a penalty of one dollar for each lob-20 ster so caught, bought, sold, given away, or exposed for sale 21 or in possession. The possession of mutilated lobsters, cooked 22 or uncooked, shall be prima facie evidence that they are not 23 of the required length. All lobsters or parts of lobsters 24 sold for use in this state or for export therefrom must be 25 sold and delivered in the shell under a penalty of twenty 26 dollars for each offense, and whoever ships, buys, gives 27 away sells or exposes for sale lobster meat after the same 28 shall have been taken from the shell shall be liable to a pen-29 alty of one dollar for each pound of meat so bought, sold, 30 given away, exposed for sale or shipped. Any person or cor-31 poration in the business of a common carrier of merchandise, 32 who shall knowingly carry or transport from place to place 33 lobster meat after the same shall have been taken from the 34 shell shall be liable to a penalty of fifty dollars upon each con35 viction thereof. All lobster meat so illegally bought, shipped, 36 sold, given away, exposed for sale or transported shall be 37 liable to seizure and may be confiscated. Nothing con-38 tained herein shall be held to prohibit the sale of lobsters 39 that have been legally canned.'

STATE OF MAINE.

House of Representatives, Augusta, February 25, 1907.

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

E. M. THOMPSON, Clerk.