

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 96

House of Representatives, Feb. 9, 1915.

Ordered, That one thousand copies be printed and that the same be referred to the Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries.

Committee on Reference.

Presented by Mr. Goldthwait of Biddeford.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend Sections Seventeen and Twenty of Chapter Forty-one of the Revised Statutes 1903, as Amended, Relating to the Measurement of Lobsters, and to add thereto Section Twenty-nine as hereinafter set forth.

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

Section 1. That the words, "three-fourths," in section 2 seventeen of chapter forty-one of the revised statutes 1903, 3 amended by the public laws 1907, chapter 49, and public 4 laws 1909, chapter 67, be stricken out and the words 'one- 5 eighth' inserted, so that the aforesaid section seventeen shall 6 read as follows:

'Sect. 17. No person shall buy or sell, give away or expose

8 for sale or possess for any purpose any lobster less than four
9 and one-eighth inches in length, alive or dead, cooked or un-
10 cooked, measured in manner as follows: Taking the length
11 of the back of the lobster measured from the end of the
12 bone of the nose to the center of the rear end of the body
13 shell; and any lobster shorter than the prescribed length
14 when caught shall be immediately liberated alive at the risk
15 and cost of the parties taking them, under penalty of one dol-
16 lar for each lobster so caught, bought, sold, given away, or
17 exposed for sale or in possession. The possession of muti-
18 lated lobsters, cooked or uncooked, shall be prime facie evi-
19 dence that they are not of the required length. All lobsters
20 or parts of lobsters sold for use in this state or for export
21 therefrom must be sold and delivered in the shell under a
22 penalty of twenty dollars for each offense, and whoever
23 ships, transports, carries, buys, gives away, sells or exposes
24 for sale lobster meat after the same shall have been taken
25 from the shell shall be liable to a penalty of one dollar for
26 each pound of meat so shipped, transported, carried, bought,
27 given away, sold or exposed for sale. Any person or cor-
28 poration in the business of a common carrier of merchandise,
29 who shall knowingly carry or transport from place to place
30 lobster meat after the same shall have been taken from the
31 shell shall be liable to a penalty of fifty dollars upon each con-
32 viction thereof. All lobster meat so illegally shipped, trans-
33 ported, carried, bought, given away, sold or exposed for sale
34 shall be liable to seizure and may be confiscated. Nothing

35 contained herein shall be held to prohibit the sale of lobsters
36 that have been legally canned.

Sect. 2. That the words, "three-fourths" in section twenty
2 of chapter forty-one of the revised statutes 1903, amended
3 by public laws 1909, chapter 65, be stricken out and the words
4 'one-eighth' inserted, so that the aforesaid section twenty
5 shall read as follows:

'Sect. 20. No person shall can lobsters less than four and
7 one-eighth inches in length, alive or dead, measured in ac-
8 cordance with section seventeen of chapter forty-one of the
9 revised statutes, as amended by chapter forty-nine of the
10 public laws of nineteen hundred and seven; and for every
11 lobster canned contrary to the provisions of this section,
12 every person, firm, association or corporation so canning
13 shall be liable to a penalty of one dollar for every lobster so
14 canned contrary to the provisions of this section, and a fur-
15 ther penalty of three hundred dollars for every day on which
16 such unlawful canning is carried on.'

Sect. 3. That chapter forty-one of the revised statutes,
2 1903, shall have added thereto section twenty-nine as fol-
3 lows:

'Sect. 29. Each and every "lobster pot," so called, or other
5 contrivance set, kept, maintained, or caused to be set, kept,
6 or maintained in any of the waters in the jurisdiction of this
7 State, shall be provided with a circular entrance ring or
8 rings, the greatest inside diameter of which shall not be

9 greater than three and one-half inches. Every person vio-
10 lating the provisions of this section shall be fined ten dollars
11 for each offence.'