

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 895

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*House of Representatives, March 18, 1915.*

*On motion of Mr. Jameson of Friendship, ordered printed pending acceptance of report.*

*C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT to amend sections seventeen and twenty of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes of 1903, as amended, relating to the measurement of lobsters.

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*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 41 of the revised statutes of 1903, as 3 amended by chapter 49 of the public laws of 1907 and chap- 4 ter 67 of the public laws of 1909, be stricken out and the 5 words 'one-eighth' be inserted in the place thereof; that 6 there be inserted after the words "end of body shell," in 7 said section, the following: 'Neither shall any person buy,

8 sell, give away, expose for sale or possess for any purpose  
9 any lobster caught in the waters off the shores of this state  
10 more than five and seven-eighths inches in length, measured  
11 as aforesaid. And any lobster measuring five inches or  
12 more, measured as aforesaid, having the bone of the nose,  
13 or any part thereof, broken off, shall be deemed to be an  
14 illegal lobster, unless the same can be freely passed through  
15 an inflexible and rigid circular metal ring three and three-  
16 eighths inches in diameter;’ that there be inserted after the  
17 word “shorter” in the next line of said section, the words  
18 ‘or longer;’ and that the word “so” between the words “lob-  
19 ster” and “caught” be stricken out, and that there shall be  
20 inserted after the word “caught” the following: ‘measuring  
21 less than the prescribed length and five dollars for each lob-  
22 ster caught measuring more than the prescribed length;’  
23 that there be inserted after the word “possession,” at the  
24 end of the sentence amended as above, the words ‘contrary  
25 to the provisions hereof;’ so that said section as amended,  
26 shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 17. No person shall buy or sell, give away or ex-  
28 pose for sale or possess for any purpose any lobster less  
29 than four and one-eighth inches in length, alive or dead,  
30 cooked or uncooked, measured in manner as follows: Taking  
31 the length of the back of the lobster, measured from the  
32 end of the bone of the nose to the center of the rear end  
33 of the body shell. Neither shall any person buy, sell, give  
34 away, expose for sale or possess for any purpose any lob-

35 ster caught in the waters off the shores of this state more  
36 than five and seven-eighths inches in length, measured as  
37 aforesaid; and any lobster measuring five inches or more,  
38 measured as aforesaid, having the bone of the nose, or any  
39 part thereof, broken off shall be deemed to be an illegal  
40 lobster, unless the same can be freely passed through an  
41 inflexible and rigid circular metal ring three and three-  
42 eighths inches in diameter; and any lobster shorter or longer  
43 than the prescribed lengths when caught shall be immedi-  
44 ately liberated alive at the risk and cost of the parties taking  
45 them, under a penalty of one dollar for each lobster caught  
46 measuring less than the prescribed length and five dollars  
47 for each lobster caught measuring more than the prescribed  
48 length, bought, sold, given away, exposed for sale or in  
49 possession contrary to the provisions hereof. The posses-  
50 sion of mutilated lobsters, cooked or uncooked, shall be  
51 prima facie evidence that they are not of the required length.  
52 All lobsters, or parts of lobsters, sold for use in this state,  
53 or for export therefrom, must be sold and delivered in the  
54 shell, under a penalty of twenty dollars for each offense,  
55 and whoever ships, transports, carries, buys, gives away,  
56 sells or exposes for sale lobster meat, after the same shall  
57 have been taken from the shell, shall be liable to a penalty  
58 of one dollar for each pound of meat so shipped, transport-  
59 ed, carried, bought, given away, sold or exposed for sale.  
60 Any person or corporation in the business of a common  
61 carrier of merchandise who shall knowingly carry or trans-

62 port from place to place lobster meat, after the same shall  
63 have been taken from the shell, shall be liable to a penalty  
64 of fifty dollars upon each conviction thereof. All lobster  
65 meat so illegally shipped, transported, carried, bought, given  
66 away, sold or exposed for sale shall be liable to seizure and  
67 may be confiscated. Nothing contained herein shall be held  
68 to prohibit the sale of lobsters that have been legally canned.'

Sect. 2. That the words "three-fourths," in section twenty  
2 of chapter forty-one of the revised statutes of 1903 amend-  
3 ed by public laws of 1909, chapter 65, be stricken out and  
4 the words 'one-eighth' be inserted; and that after the words  
5 "inches in length," in said section, the following words be  
6 inserted: 'nor more than five and seven-eighths inches in  
7 length,' so that the aforesaid section twenty shall read as  
8 follows:

'Sect. 20. No person shall can lobsters less than four and  
10 one-eighth inches in length nor more than five and seven-  
11 eighths inches in length, alive or dead, measured in accord-  
12 ance with section seventeen of chapter forty-one of the  
13 revised statutes as amended by chapter forty-nine of the  
14 public laws of 1907; and for every lobster canned contrary  
15 to the provisions of this section, every person, firm, asso-  
16 ciation or corporation so canning shall be liable to a penalty  
17 of one dollar for every lobster so canned contrary to the  
18 provisions of this section, and a further penalty of three  
19 hundred dollars for every day on which such unlawful can-  
20 ning is carried on.'