

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 436

H. P. 993

House of Representatives, Feb. 11, 1931.

Referred to Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Patterson of Freeport.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND THIRTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Smelt Fishing.

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

Smelt fishing regulated. Section eighty of chapter fifty of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following section inserted in place thereof:

'Sec. 80. Regulation of smelt fishing; penalty. No smelts shall be taken or fished for in any of the tidal waters of the state not covered by private or special laws between the first day of April and the first day of October of each year except by hook and line, provided that the fishing of smelts at any time, except with hook and line, in all tidal creeks, arms, coves and estuaries, on the shores of the mainland, where the width of such places is less than one half of a mile between mean high tide marks is hereby prohibited.

It shall be lawful to take or fish for smelts from the fifteenth to the thirtieth of April, inclusive, of each year in tidal portions of brooks or creeks two hundred feet below mean high tide marks, three hours after high tide, with dip-nets, the diameter of the bow of which shall not exceed two feet, provided further, that five dozen smelts shall be the limit which any one family may take or fish from such waters in any one day or night, or period of two consecutive tides; it shall be unlawful to erect any barriers which shall prevent the ascent

of smelts to the fresh water sections of such brooks, creeks and estuaries.

Anyone violating any provision of this section shall be punished by a fine of one hundred dollars for each offense.'