

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 54

H. P. 110

House of Representatives, Jan. 19, 1933.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Goudy of South Portland.

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STATE   OF   MAINE

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

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AN ACT Relating to the Legal Size of Lobsters and Method of Measurement.

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

Section 38 of chapter 50 of the revised statutes is amended to read as follows :

‘Sec. 38. **Legal size of lobsters and method of measurement; penalty; prohibitions; penalties.** No person shall buy, or sell, give away, or expose for sale, or possess for any purpose any lobsters less than three and ~~one-half~~ **one-eighth** inches in length, alive or dead, cooked or uncooked, measured from the rear of the eye socket along a line parallel to the center line of the body shell to the rear end of the body shell; and any lobster shorter than the prescribed length when caught shall be immediately liberated alive at the risk and cost of the parties taking it, under a penalty of five dollars for each lobster so caught, bought, sold, given away, exposed for sale, or in possession. The possession of mutilated lobsters, cooked or uncooked, shall be prima facie evidence that they are not of the required length. Measures for determining the legal length of lobsters shall be provided by the state and may be obtained from the commissioner at cost. No evidence shall be received in any of the courts of the state in any matter in which the length of a lobster is in question unless such length has been determined by such a measure. All lobsters or parts of lobsters sold for

use in this state or for export therefrom must be sold or delivered in the shell under a penalty of \$20 for each offense; and whoever ships, transports, carries, buys, gives away, sells, or exposes for sale lobster meat after the same shall have been taken from the shell, shall be liable to a penalty of \$10 for each pound of meat so shipped, transported, carried, bought, given away, sold, or exposed for sale. Any person or corporation in the business of common carrier of merchandise who shall knowingly carry or transport from place to place lobster meat after the same shall have been taken from the shell, shall be liable to a penalty of \$50 upon each conviction thereof. All lobster meat so illegally shipped, carried, bought, given away, sold, or exposed for sale shall be liable to seizure and may be confiscated. Nothing herein contained shall be held to prohibit the sale of lobsters that have been legally canned.'