

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY - SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 602

H. P. 1154

House of Representatives, Feb. 8, 1933.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Graves of Mt. Desert.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Lobsters.

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

Close time on female lobsters. Sections 39 and 40 of chapter 50 of the revised statutes are hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof :

'Close time on female lobsters; purchase of lobsters with eggs attached; penalties. No person shall destroy, catch, buy, sell, expose for sale, or possess any female lobsters in spawn or with eggs attached at any season of the year, under a penalty of \$10 for each lobster so destroyed, caught, bought, sold, exposed for sale or possessed, provided, however, that lobsters with eggs attached caught in the waters of this state may be safely stored in lobster cars or traps used for that purpose only, until the commissioner or some person or persons designated by him can gather and pay for them. The commissioner may purchase at the rate of 15 per cent above market price, such lobsters with eggs attached, caught in the waters of this state. The commissioner or his agent shall liberate any lobsters so purchased in the vicinity where they were caught, after having marked such lobsters by cutting off $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 smeller so-called. Such lobsters shall be deemed the property of the state, and, if again caught shall immediately be returned to the waters by the person catching them. The possession of

any such marked lobster or mutilated lobster shall be deemed prima facie evidence of violation of the above provisions. Any person violating the said above provisions of this section shall be punished by a fine of \$50 for each female lobster in possession with any part of it smaller mutilated.'