

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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E I G H T Y - E I G H T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 71

H. P. 202

House of Representatives, January 21, 1937.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Sleeper, Jr. of Rockland.

S T A T E O F M A I N E

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Requiring All Resident Fishermen to Obtain License for Catching Ground Fish for Commercial Purposes.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, for the purpose of procuring reliable information for the department of sea and shore fisheries as to the value of moneys invested and values of ground fish caught in Maine tidal and coastal waters it is necessary that further reliable information be had thereon in order the more completely to ascertain the true value of the industry to the state of Maine;

And whereas such information is required by law to be furnished only in part;

And whereas the business of catching ground fish is a large and important part of the coast fishing industry of Maine.

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature these facts create an emergency within the meaning of section 16 of Article XXXI of the constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, now therefore,

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

License provided for. Any person qualified to apply for a license to catch ground fish for commercial purposes in the tidal or coastal waters of the state must apply to the commissioner of sea and shore fisheries for such license and state in his application as nearly as may be, on a blank furnished by that department, the estimated value of his boat and equipment separately, the gross value of his previous year's catch and any other statistical information that may be required for the use of the department.

If any fisherman holds a lobster license he shall keep a separate account of his catches of all ground fish caught for commercial purposes in addition to the information sought of him by virtue of the requirements of his lobster license, but he need not procure a separate license.

Any legal resident of the state intending to engage in the catching of ground fish in the tidal or coastal waters of the state for commercial purposes must procure a license therefore from the commissioner of sea and shore fisheries and failure to procure such license shall be punished by a fine of \$25. No license fee shall be required of such applicant but he shall be required to furnish the information required of him by the blanks in his application and his refusal or failure to promise to furnish such information may be deemed sufficient cause for refusing the granting of such license, or a neglect or refusal to furnish such information after the issuance of it shall be cause for the revocation of such license.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency recited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.