

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. 72

H. P. 203

House of Representatives, Jan. 21, 1937.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Sleeper 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 to Prohibit the Taking of Ground Fish in Certain Waters During the Spawning Season.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the preservation and propagation of ground fish in the tidal and coastal waters of the state are necessary to the successful continuance of our sea and shore fisheries; and

Whereas, for the protection of such fish during the spawning season in the months of April and May, it is of the greatest importance that certain well known feeding grounds for such fish should be kept free from the catching of same for said 2 months and that, during that time, all such fishing therein should be prohibited so that no opportunity may be given for the taking of such fish so spawning at that time in certain waters of the state; and

Whereas, the taking of such fish at said times and places works a great loss and damage to the fishing industry of the state and to the welfare of those engaged therein who obtain their livelihood thereby and have large sums of money invested therein; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature these facts create an emergency within the meaning of section 16 of article XXXI of the constitu-

tion 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:

Sec. 1. Limit on ground fish fishing. It shall be unlawful during the months of April and May of each year to fish for or take with beam trawls, with otter trawls or in any other manner, any ground fish from the waters subject to the jurisdiction of this state north of a line drawn from the south end of Cape Small Point eastward to the southern end of Seguin; thence to the southern end of Pumpkin Island in the county of Lincoln; thence to the lighthouse on Pemaquid Point.

Sec. 2. Penalty. Whoever violates any of the provisions of this act shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 and in default of payment thereof, 30 days in jail, for the first offense, and for the second offense by imprisonment for 60 days in jail, in default of payment, to pay the fine imposed.

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