

# 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

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 74**

H. P. 205

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.

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

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
THIRTY-SEVEN

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### **AN ACT to Prohibit the Taking of Ground Fish in Certain Waters During the Spawning Season.**

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**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 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:

**Sec. 1. Restrictions.** For the purpose of protecting the spawning grounds of so-called ground fish, it is hereby enacted that no ground fish shall be fished for or taken for commercial purposes during the months of April and May for the next 4 years after the approval of this act, landward within the following lines, all within the county of Knox, to wit;

A line drawn from Owl's Head lighthouse in the town of Owl's Head in a generally easterly direction to Northern Head in the town of North Haven;

Also landward from a line commencing at Marshall's Point lighthouse in the town of St. George in a generally southeasterly direction to the whistling buoy south of Mosquito Island in said town of St. George and thence in a northeasterly direction to Two Bush Island lighthouse.

**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 thereof, 30 days in jail, for 1st offense and for the second offense, 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.