

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

NINETY - SECOND LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1214

S. P. 470

In Senate, July 9, 1946

Referred to the Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries, sent down for concurrence and 1,500 copies ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Washburn of Washington.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-SIX

AN ACT Relating to the Packing of Sardines.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the legislature of Maine in 1945 amended chapter 27 of the Revised Statutes, and enacted chapter 78 of the Public Laws of 1945, in the attempt to improve the packing and grading law regulating the quality of sardines and by such enactment, inadvertently omitted an important sentence providing for the marking of cans containing less than the specified number of fish, and thereby causing great confusion and hardship to the sardine packers, and

Whereas, fish is now greatly needed for food and the law, if amended, will permit the packing of larger fish, and as there seems to exist a scarcity of food at the present time, an amendment to the law seems very necessary at once, and

Whereas, in the judgment of this legislature, it is necessary that immediate provision should be made, thus regulating the quality of sardines packed, and providing for a proper labeling by all packing plants which pack fish for food purposes, and

Whereas, in the judgment of this legislature these facts constitute an emergency within the meaning of the constitution of the state of Maine, and therefore 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:

R. S., c. 27, § 203, amended. The last paragraph of section 203 of chapter 27 of the revised statutes, as enacted by section 2 of chapter 78 of the public laws of 1945, is hereby amended to read as follows:

'In packing all grades of sardines, the quality of the oil shall be for cottonseed a "prime winter yellow" sweet in flavor and odor and shall not contain more than 1/10 of 1% of free fatty acid, or a pure unadulterated soyabean oil, peanut oil, olive oil or any vegetable oil not below the grade of "prime winter yellow" cottonseed oil. The quality of the tomato sauce shall be of not less than 1.035 specific gravity.

Provided, however, that less than the minimum count of fish per can as above specified may be packed if the cases in which they are contained and each can in said cases are plainly and conspicuously marked with the word "herring" but the word "sardine" nor "sardines" shall not appear either on the case or on the cans that contain less than the minimum count of fish per can as above specified. And it is further provided that less than the minimum quantity of oil or mustard sauce or tomato sauce as above specified may be packed if the cases in which they are contained and each can in said cases are plainly and conspicuously marked with the legend indicating that the contents of the cans are not in accord with the standard of quality established in this section. Such cases and cans so marked as "herring" and not marked "sardine" or "sardines" and such cans that contain less than the minimum quantity of oil or mustard sauce or tomato sauce as above specified and marked in accord with the fact shall not be deemed to be misbranded.'

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