

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO

—
H.P. 1310 - L.D. 1759

**An Act To Extend the Legal Hours for Harvesting Lobster in the Month of
September**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the current legal times for raising and hauling lobster traps are determined by the sun's rising and setting; and

Whereas, in the autumn, the later sunrise prevents lobster license holders from fishing most efficiently and during the calmer morning hours; and

Whereas, it is necessary that this Act take effect before September 2022 in order to allow lobster license holders to take advantage of the autumn harvest and in order to allow them to fish efficiently and safely; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning 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. 12 MRSA §6440, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2017, c. 32, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Summer. During the period 1/2 hour after sunset until 1/2 hour before sunrise from June 1st to ~~September 30th~~ August 31st, both days inclusive, and during the period 1/2 hour after sunset until 4 a.m. from ~~October~~ September 1st to October 31st, both days inclusive; and

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.