



Legislative History for Connecticut Act

SB 562 PA 177 1927

Fish Game 49, 50, 86

Transcripts from the Joint Standing Committee Public Hearing(s) and/or Senate
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JOINT
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HEARINGS

FISH
AND
GAME

CONNECTICUT
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

1927

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TITCOMB: The blue crab, which is considered a great delicacy, has been going down very rapidly. In Maryland, where the industry has been an exceedingly important one, running into probably more value than all of our commercial fisheries put together, they have taken very stringent measures to protect them, and our present crab law is such as the Maryland law. They employ patrol boats down there now to protect the crabs.

Part of the cause of the loss of the crab is the same as that of the oyster industry, and that is pollution, but our waters are improving. The oyster industry is already reacting, and we want to make the crab industry important. I am trying to contract now for a lot of sponge crabs, which is a female crab covered with eggs, to be shipped up here from Virginia, to be planted in our waters. There are from thirty to forty thousand eggs on their body. We have a promise of 20 barrels of these crabs, which would mean a good many million little crabs, if we make the experiment a success. We hope to get those this Spring. We would have had them last year but they had difficulty in packing them.

✓ S.B. NO. 562 RELATING TO SIZE OF OPENINGS IN LOBSTER POTS.

MULHALEY: I think this Bill is a little too drastic.

We call a series of boats on one rope a trawl, and we always buoy our trawls. Last year I made up my mind I would have to set them without buoys, and I cannot see any harm in so doing.

I believe there would be a lot of opposition if the fishermen knew about it. There are not many dishonest lobstermen, but there are those pleasure boats in July and August, and if the occupants see a lobster pot, it is a great temptation to rob it.

MOR TOLLES: On the matter of the opening, not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in width at the bottom, what do you think of that?

MULHALEY: I have always been in favor of that.

MOR TOLLES: What about the other provision, with regard to Sunday?

MULHALEY: These pleasure boats on Sunday would go out there and rob these pots. I would be opposed to that Sunday law.

There should be no law passed that you have to set these buoys. It would not be fair to the fishermen.

FISH AND GAME

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 24, 1927.

✓ *Senate Bill No. 562*
SPEAKER TOLLES: With regard to the Bill relating to size of opening in lobster pots, I move that that matter be referred to Mr. Titcomb, to redraft the Bill, in view of the Hearing he wishes to redraft it.

Carried.
- - -

✓ S.B. 302. AN ACT RELATING TO BLUE CRABS AND SAND CRABS.

Unfavorable Report. Same subject being covered in the Codification Act.
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✓ Substitute for
S.B. 446. OPERATION OF A STATE HATCHERY FOR LOBSTERS AT NOANK.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations.
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FISH AND GAME
EXECUTIVE SESSION

WEDNESDAY

MARCH 23, 1927.

✓ *Senate Bill No. 550*
FISHING IN THE SCANTIC RIVER

Favorable report.

✓ H.B. 502. CONCERNING PINES.

Rejected.

✓ H.B. 501. PHEASANT PROPOSITION

Rejected.

* ✓ *Senate Bill No. 558*
SIZE LIMIT OF FISH IN MARINE WATERS.

Favorable Report.

✓ *Senate Bill No. 562*
OPENING IN LOBSTER POTS.

Committee Bill. Conforms to the present New York State law. The majority of lobster men are very much in favor of it.

FISHING IN MARINE WATERS.

* New York and New Jersey have already conformed to it. Massachusetts is in line for it. This is based on report of the Committee of the United States Fisheries Association, composed of big fish purchasers along the coast. A similar Bill will be before the Massachusetts Legislature