

# HOUSE . . . . No. 587

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By Mr. Martin of Montague, petition of George F. Martin, Jr., for legislation relative to the taking and sale of shiners and fish of similar nature as bait. Conservation.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Seven.

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### AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE TAKING AND SALE OF SHINERS AND FISH OF SIMILAR NATURE AS BAIT.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 131 of the General Laws is hereby amended  
2 by striking out section 48, as appearing in section 2  
3 of chapter 599 of the acts of 1941, and inserting in  
4 place thereof the following:—

5 *Section 48.* Shiners or fish of a similar nature and  
6 suckers may be taken for bait, but not for the purpose  
7 of sale, in any of the inland waters of the common-  
8 wealth by any person holding a fishing or sporting  
9 license then in force, and by means of a single fish  
10 trap with openings not more than one inch or by a  
11 singular hoop or circular net not exceeding 6 feet in  
12 diameter or by means of a rectangular net containing  
13 not more than thirty-six square feet of net surface  
14 and no person shall take more than fifty shiners or  
15 fish of similar nature and suckers or fifty shiners and  
16 suckers in the aggregate in twenty-four consecutive

17 hours; and shiners and fish of a similar nature and  
18 suckers may be taken by persons holding a fishing or  
19 sporting license then in force, for the purpose of sale  
20 as bait, in any of the said waters by a single fish  
21 trap with openings of not more than one inch or by  
22 means of a singular hoop or circular net not exceeding  
23 6 feet in diameter, or by means of a net containing  
24 not more than two hundred square feet of net surface  
25 if each person operating or assisting in the operation  
26 of such trap or net is thereto authorized by a license  
27 issued by the director, which license the director is  
28 hereby authorized to issue upon receipt of a fee of  
29                   dollars; and shiners or fish of a similar  
30 nature and suckers may be sold by any person pro-  
31 vided that he is or they are authorized by license  
32 issued for the purpose of buying, selling or offering  
33 for sale shiners, fish of similar nature and suckers as  
34 bait. The fee and license for the buying, selling or  
35 offering for sale shall be the same as issued to persons  
36 taking shiners or suckers for the purpose of sale.  
37 Any fish taken by any such net or trap other than  
38 those permitted in this section to be taken thereby,  
39 shall be immediately returned alive to the water  
40 whence they were taken. Licenses granted under this  
41 section shall expire on the thirty-first day of December  
42 in the year of issue, if not sooner revoked. Any  
43 person who loses or by mistake or accident destroys  
44 any license issued under authority of this section  
45 may, upon application to the director, accompanied  
46 by an affidavit setting forth the circumstances of  
47 such loss, receive a duplicate license upon payment  
48 of a fee of fifty cents.