

HOUSE No. 289.

[Bill accompanying the petition of Thomas L. Davis for legislation relative to the length of lobsters which may lawfully be taken. Fisheries and Game. Jan. 26.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Three.

AN ACT

Relative to the Size of Lobsters which may lawfully
be taken.

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

1 Section eighty-eight of chapter ninety-one of
2 the Revised Laws is hereby amended by striking
3 out the whole section and inserting in place
4 thereof the following:—

5 *Section 88.* Whoever sells or offers for sale
6 or has in his possession an uncooked lobster
7 which is ten and one-half inches in length or
8 more than that, or a cooked lobster which is ten
9 and one-quarter inches in length or more than

10 that, measuring from the extremity of the bone
11 protruding from the head to the end of the bone
12 of the middle flipper of the tail of the lobster,
13 extending on its back its natural length, shall
14 forfeit not more than five dollars for every such
15 lobster, one-half to the use of the city or town
16 in which the offence is committed and one-half
17 to the Commonwealth ; and in all prosecutions
18 under the provisions of this section any mutila-
19 tion of a lobster, cooked or uncooked, which
20 affects its measurement shall be prima facie evi-
21 dence that the lobster is more than the legal
22 length, and the possession of any lobster, cooked
23 or uncooked, which is more than the legal length
24 shall be prima facie evidence to convict.