

STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-272) 109TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT" A"to H.P. 275, L.D. 357, Bill, "AN ACT Concerning Licensing of Head and Hide Dealers by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife."

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the amending clause and inserting in its place the following: 4352. Deer skins and heads

It shall be unlawful for any person at any time to buy, sell, barter, take in trade or take in exchange for any services rendered any raw, untanned wild animal hide or head without first obtaining from the commissioner a hide dealer's license.

The commissioner may annually issue licenses to engage in the business of buying and selling raw, untanned wild animal heads and hides.

The annual fee for that license shall be \$32 for residents of this State and \$63 for nonresidents.

All persons aiding or assisting another in buying, selling or bartering raw, untanned hides or heads of wild animals shall be considered as engaged in the business of buying the hides and heads of wild animals and shall procure a license therefor.

Each licensee shall keep a true and complete record, which shall be open to inspection at all times by the commissioner or his agent, of all heads and hides purchased, in such form as is required by the commissioner, and shall send each record, after being notarized, to the commissioner on or before the 31st day of December of each year.

Whoever buys any raw, untanned wild animal hide or head without being licensed, or whoever, licensed under this section, neglects to keep the record and forward it to the commissioner, or whoever refuses to exhibit the record for inspection by the commissioner or his agent, shall be subject to the penalties of Title 12, section 3060. All hides and heads bought in violation of any provisions of this section shall be forfeit and contraband and shall be seized by any person authorized to enforce the inland fisheries and wildlife laws, and upon conviction of the person or persons from whom they were seized they shall be sold, and the proceeds from that sale paid to the Treasurer of State.

The license of any licensee who is convicted of a violation of any provision of this section shall be revoked by the commissioner for not less than one year. The revocation shall become effective on January 1st of the next calendar year following the date of final disposition.

Notwithstanding this section, a person who lawfully registers any deer, moose or bear, or lawfully possesses any furbearing animal may sell the hide or head thereof.

<u>Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §4353</u>, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 590, 528, is repealed.

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to clarify the requirements for licensing dealers in raw wild animal hides and heads. The amendment exempts anyone selling any raw hides legally obtained from the licensing requirements.

Reported by the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House. 4/26/79 (Filing No. H-272)