

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 357

H. P. 275

House of Representatives, February 6, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Dow of W. Gardiner.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT Concerning Licensing of Head and Hide Dealers by the Department of
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

32 MRSA § 4352, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 27, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 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 wild animal hide or head without first obtaining from the commissioner a hide dealers' license.

The commissioner may annually issue licenses to engage in the business of buying and selling 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, bartering, sorting or grading the 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 wild animal hide or head without being licensed, or whoever, licensed as aforesaid, 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 suspended by the commissioner for not less than one year from the date of conviction.

Notwithstanding this section, a person who lawfully registers a deer or bear may sell the skin and head thereof.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this legislation is to reduce the number of licenses issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by consolidating 2 similar licenses. There is no financial loss anticipated.