

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 500

H. P. 391

House of Representatives, February 13, 1979

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Churchill of Orland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to Tending Traps in the Unorganized Territories.

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

12 MRSA § 2351, as amended by PL 1971, c. 403, §§ 14 and 15, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 2351. **Traps visited every 24 hours; consent of owner; populated areas**

Any person trapping in any organized or incorporated place shall visit each trap or cause the same to be visited at least once in every calendar day including Sunday, except beaver sets, so called. Any person trapping in any unorganized or deorganized place shall visit, or cause to be visited, each trap at least once in every 72-hour period, except beaver sets. It shall be unlawful to fail to remove or cause to be removed any animal found caught in any trap. No person shall trap, except for beaver, on or in any organized or incorporated place, or in any unorganized place on the cultivated or pasture area of land that is used for agricultural purposes, and on which land there is an occupied dwelling, or within 200 yards of any occupied dwelling, without first obtaining the written consent of the owner or occupant of the land on which that trap is to be set. It shall be the duty of the landowner or occupant to prove his ownership or occupancy of the land in question before any prosecution is made under this particular part of this section.

No person shall trap outside his own land, within ½ a mile of the compact built-up portion of any city or village, except by the use of water sets, so called, for mink and muskrat. A water set shall be a trap so set that it shall be completely covered by water at all times. Any person who has a written permit from the landowner may trap only with water sets, so called, within ½ mile of the built-up section of any city or village.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to require trappers in the unorganized territory to visit their traps every 72 hours.