

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 71.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND
SEVENTY-SEVEN.

AN ACT additional to chapter thirty of the revised
statutes, relating to mischievous dogs.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives
in Legislature assembled, as follows :*

SECTION 1. Every owner or keeper of a dog shall,
2 annually, cause it to be registered, described and
3 licensed for one year, in the office of the city or town
4 clerk wherein he resides, by paying therefor to said
5 clerk the sum of twenty cents, and shall cause it to
6 wear around its neck a collar distinctly marked with
7 the owner's name and registered number, and shall pay
8 into treasury of the city or town for such license one
9 dollar for a male dog and two dollars for a female dog.

SECT. 2. The treasurer of the town shall keep an
2 accurate and separate account of all money received
3 and paid out under the provisions of this act.

SECT. 3. Whoever keeps a dog contrary to the provisions of this act shall forfeit ten dollars, to be covered on complaint, to the use of the city or town wherein the dog is kept, and any person may, and every police officer and constable shall kill or cause to be destroyed all dogs going at large, and not licensed and collared according to the provisions of this act, and such officers when not otherwise paid for their services, shall receive from the city or town treasury fifty cents for each dog so destroyed.

SECT. 4. Whoever wrongfully removes the collar from or steals a dog licensed and collared as aforesaid, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding twenty dollars, and whoever wrongfully kills, maims, entices or carries away such a dog shall be liable to the owner for its value.

SECT. 5. Whoever suffers loss by reason of the wounding, maiming or killing of his sheep, lambs, or other domestic animals, by dogs, may, within thirty days after he knows of such loss, present proof thereof to mayor or selectmen of the city or town wherein the damage is done, and thereupon said officers shall draw a conditional order in favor of the owner, upon the treasurer of said city or town, for the amount of such loss; the treasurer shall register such orders at the time of their presentation, and annually, on the first

11 day of January, pay them in full, if the amount re-
12 ceived by his city or town under the provisions of this
13 act and not previously paid out is sufficient therefor ;
14 otherwise, he shall divide such amount pro rata among
15 such orders, in full discharge thereof. After such
16 order has been drawn, the city or town may recover
17 against the owner or keeper of any dog concerned in
18 doing the damage the full amount thereof.

SECT. 6. All fines and penalties provided in the
2 preceding sections may be recovered on complaint be-
3 fore any court of competent jurisdiction in the county
4 where the offence is committed.

SECT. 7. Section seven, chapter six of the revised
2 statutes, relating to the assessment and collection of
3 taxes, and all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with
4 this act is and are hereby repealed.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 30, 1877. }

Reported from the Committee on Agriculture, by Mr. SPRAGUE of Greene, and
ordered printed under the Joint Rule.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk.*