

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 416

H. P. 669

House of Representatives, Feb. 10, 1931.

Reported by Mr. Gagnon from Committee on State Lands and Forest Preservation and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Melcher of Rumford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND THIRTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to the Burning of Brush, Slash or
Blueberry Land.

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

Section fifty-three of chapter eleven of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding after the word "land" in the nineteenth line of said section the words 'and grass land', and by striking out in said line the following words, "when such land is", and by adding after the word "land" in the twenty-third line of said section the words 'and grass land adjacent to any forest growth', so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sec. 53. Any person, firm, corporation, or agent, cutting any forest growth on property adjacent to the right of way of any railroad or highway within the state, shall leave the growth uncut on the land within fifty feet of the limit of the right of way of a railroad or center of the wrought portion of any plantation, town, city, county, or state road; (or shall dispose of slash and debris caused by cutting in such a manner that inflammable material shall not remain on the ground within fifty feet of the limit of the right of way of a railroad or center of the wrought portion of any plantation, town, city, county or state road). Any person, firm, corporation, or agent

cutting any forest growth on property adjacent to woodlands owned by another within the state outside the limits of the Maine forestry district and all such firms, persons, and corporations, who by themselves, their agents, servants, licensees, permittees, or lessees operate, or permit operation of portable sawmills on land which borders on woodland shall dispose of slash and debris caused by cutting in such a manner that inflammable material shall not remain on the ground within fifty feet of the line of cutting on the side or sides towards such woodland. Provided, however, that consent and direction in writing from the forestry department shall be required for the burning of such brush or slash or for the burning of blueberry land and grass land adjacent to any forest growth except when the ground is covered with snow. The forest commissioner shall cause to be furnished to all the chief forest fire wardens and to the municipal officers of all towns and organized plantations of the state, blank permits, signed by him, for the burning of brush or slash or for the burning of blueberry land and grass land adjacent to any forest growth. Any chief forest fire warden or the municipal officers of the town, in the county where the land is located, shall have full authority to countersign and grant such permits signed by the forest commissioner. The forest commissioner, may, however, in any particular case called to his attention, overrule the decision of the chief forest fire warden or the municipal officers, and himself grant the permit asked for or forbid the granting of the same. Whoever violates any of the provisions of this section shall on conviction thereof be punished by a fine of fifty dollars.'