

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**NINETY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE**

**Legislative Document**

**No. 1234**

S. P. 569

In Senate, March 3, 1949.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Batchelder of York.

**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-NINE

**RESOLVE Reimbursing Certain Towns for Losses Incurred During Forest  
Fires of 1947.**

**Certain towns reimbursed for losses during forest fires. Resolved:**  
That there be, and hereby is, appropriated from the general fund of the state to the towns listed below and in the amounts designated for losses incurred during forest fires of 1947:

	1949-50	1950-51
Bar Harbor	\$20,000	\$20,000
Brownfield	13,000	13,000
Hiram	5,000	5,000
Centerville	1,200	1,200
Jonesboro	1,200	1,200
Kennebunkport	2,000	2,000
Lyman	9,000	9,000
Newfield	8,000	8,000
Shapleigh	1,500	1,500
Waterboro	15,000	15,000

**\$55,900**

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

The state of Maine during the month of October, 1947, was visited in various sections, notably Bar Harbor, Brownfield, Centerville, Jonesboro, Hiram, and the York county towns of Newfield, Shapleigh, Waterboro and Lyman, with the most devastating fires ever known.

In Brownfield, Oxford county, all public buildings, including 3 school houses, and about 90 of its homes were destroyed, and in the town of Hiram, there was a considerable loss of timberlands and homes.

In Centerville and Jonesboro, Washington county, timber losses, as well as homes, greatly reduced the amount of real estate properly taxable.

In York county, in the towns of Newfield, Shapleigh, Waterboro and Lyman, practically 90% of their forest lands were destroyed, or injured to such an extent that salvage operations, have completely removed all taxable property of this nature. The land that now remains cannot be properly inventoried at a greater value than \$1 per acre. In addition, in all of the York county towns, there was a great loss of homes, and in the Kennebunkport area, more than \$200,000 of taxable real estate was destroyed.