

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE - HUNDRETH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 370**

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H. P. 256

House of Representatives, January 17, 1961

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Brown of Cape Elizabeth.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-ONE

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**AN ACT Relating to Unprotected Wells.**

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 137, §§ 32-B - 32-C, additional.** Chapter 137 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding 2 new sections 32-B, 32-C, to read as follows:

**'Unprotected Wells.**

**Sec. 32-B. Definition.** The term "well" as used in this section and section 32-C shall mean any artificially made hole in the surface of the earth more than 4 feet deep and more than 8 inches in diameter and the sides of which are steeper than 60 degree slope.

**Sec. 32-C. Unprotected wells prohibited.** No person who owns or occupies land shall knowingly allow any well to remain open on such land, unless there is a substantial fence or protection around such well so constructed that no child can crawl through or under it, or unless it is protected by a covering strong enough to hold at least 500 pounds and secured so that it cannot be easily removed by children. Whoever violates this section and section 32-B shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500 or by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or by both.'