

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1280

S. P. 452

In Senate, February 12, 1963

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

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Cole of Waldo.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-THREE

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AN ACT to Authorize Private Game Preserves.

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

R. S., c. 37, §§ 150-B - 150-D, additional. Chapter 37 of the Revised Statutes, as revised, is amended by adding 3 new sections, to be numbered 150-B to 150-D, to read as follows:

**Private Game Preserves.**

Sec. 150-B. Private game preserves authorized. Any person, partnership or corporation owning, holding or controlling by lease or otherwise, which possession must be for a term of 5 or more years, any contiguous tract of land having an area of not less than 300 acres and not more than 600 acres, who desires to establish a private hunting preserve to propagate, preserve and hunt thereon game birds and animals shall make application to the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game for a license as provided. Such application shall be made under oath of the applicant or under oath of one of its principal officers if the applicant is a corporation. The application shall be accompanied by a license fee of \$50.

Upon receipt of such application, the commissioner shall cause the proposed tract of land described in such application and the facilities thereon to be inspected. If the commissioner finds that the tract of land contains not less than 300 acres and not more than 600 acres, is contiguous, and has the proper requirements for the operation of a private game preserve, that the game birds and game animals propagated thereon are not likely to be diseased and a menace to other birds and game, that the applicant is qualified to instruct in the rules of hunting safety those persons who may be issued permits to hunt thereon,

that the operation of such a property will not work a fraud upon persons who may be issued permits to hunt thereon and that the issuing of a license will otherwise be in the public interest, the commissioner shall approve such application and issue a license for the operation of a private hunting preserve on the tract described in such application with the rights and subject to the limitations contained in sections 150-B to 150-D.

All licenses shall expire with the calendar year and may be revoked by the commissioner at any time prior thereto for failure to comply with this chapter and with rules and regulations duly adopted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Game.

No private game preserve shall be licensed which shall be located within 2 miles of any other private game preserve.

Sec. 150-C. Posting of private game preserves. Upon receipt of a license to operate a private game preserve, the licensee shall promptly post the perimeter of the tract of land described in such license at intervals of not more than 500 feet and at every corner with signs bearing the words, "Private Game Preserve," in letters not less than 3 inches high and bearing such other legend as the commissioner may prescribe. The boundaries of a private game preserve shall be clearly defined by natural or artificial boundaries or by signs.

Sec. 150-D. Hunting on private game preserves. No person shall at any time hunt, trap, chase, catch, kill or destroy any wild birds or wild animals or have in his possession firearms of any description within the limits of any private game preserve, unless he is the licensee thereof or holds a written permit from the licensee thereof, and he then may hunt and trap only during the open season for birds and animals, and subject to the limits otherwise provided by law. Any person convicted of violating any provision of this section shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$20 nor more than \$400 and costs, or by an imprisonment for not more than 60 days, or by both.'