

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 70

H. P. 58

Office of the Clerk of the House

Filed December 29, 1972 under Joint Rule 6 by Mr. Dyar of Strong. To be printed and delivered to the House of Representatives of the 106th Legislature.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Dyar of Strong.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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AN ACT Relating to Fees for Forest Lands and Wild Lands  
Posted Against Trespass.

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

R. S., T. 12, § 602-A, additional. Title 12 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 602-A to read as follows:

§ 602-A. Lands posted against trespass

The owner of any land consisting of 500 acres or more, which land is taxed by any method of forest productivity or wild land multiple use, who denies public access to such land by notice posted conspicuously on the land, shall pay a yearly fee of \$3 per acre for each acre so posted to the Parks and Recreation Department. Such fees shall be credited to a special fund within the department which shall not lapse but remain a continuing carrying account and which shall be used by the department to procure and maintain land and buildings and construct and maintain buildings, for the use and enjoyment of the public. The department may charge reasonable fees for the services provided by this section to be credited to the special fund.

1. Exemption. An owner who satisfactorily proves to the department that actual forest cutting practices are involved on such land is exempt from this section. No such exemption approved by the department shall be renewed for the same acreage within a period of 10 years from the time such exemption is granted.

2. Further application. An owner who posts such land to deny access to vehicular traffic, but not pedestrian traffic is exempt from this section.

## FISCAL NOTE

Since it is impossible to determine the number of acres of land that may come under this law, the amount of the fees cannot be estimated.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

Vast areas of the state are being bought or leased by out-of-state individuals and corporations. These lands are becoming private game preserves and the residents of the State are being denied access. Although this law will apply to lands owned by the paper industry it will not deny them the right to post lands where timber harvesting is in process.

Proceeds will allow the Parks and Recreation Department additional funds to develop new areas for Maine citizens.