

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 449

H. P. 331

House of Representatives, January 30, 1973

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Cooney of Sabattus.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Permits for State Entry of Animals and Birds.

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

R. S., T. 7, § 1809, repealed and replaced. Section 1809 of Title 7 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 1809. Permits for state entry

Any person or persons bringing wild or domesticated animals, all avian species, amphibians or reptiles into the State may be required by the commissioner to obtain a permit previous to the time of entry, said permit to accompany shipment. If the health status of the wild or domestic animals, any avian species, amphibians or reptiles offered for entry into the State does not have health status satisfactory to the commissioner or does not comply with the Inland Fisheries and Game laws or by rules and regulations made by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game, the commissioner may refuse to grant a permit or may issue one subject to quarantine at destination. The commissioner may require the owner to have such wild or domestic animals, avian species, amphibians or reptiles tested or examined by a veterinarian at the owner's expense. The commissioner shall release such wild or domestic animals, avian species, amphibians or reptiles from quarantine only after he is satisfied that such wild or domestic animals, avian species, amphibians or reptiles are not a menace to other wild or domestic animals, avian species, amphibians, reptiles or humans of the State, and that their release is in compliance with laws, rules and regulations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Game.

Wild or domestic animals, avian species, amphibians or reptiles brought into the State without a permit may be condemned by the commissioner or

the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game and euthanized without indemnity.

Whoever violates this section shall be punished by a fine or imprisonment as provided in section 1706.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Department of Agriculture has been assisting the Inland Fisheries and Game Department in establishing the health status of wild animals and avian species requiring clearance before being imported under their laws.

At present the importation of certain animals, birds, amphibians and reptiles are not under the control of any state agency.

Recent events and increased knowledge of certain diseases and conditions make it necessary that all possible precautions be taken to protect wild and domestic animals and birds, as well as humans from unnecessary exposure to disease.