

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 129

S. P. 48

In Senate, January 8, 1975

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Hichens of York.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relating to Animal Welfare.

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

Sec. 1. 17 MRSA, § 1212, as amended by PL 1973, c. 598, § 14, is further amended to read:

§ 1212. Prevention of cruelty

The commissioner or any person authorized to make arrests may lawfully interfere to prevent the perpetration of any act of cruelty upon an animal in his presence and whoever interferes with or obstructs such officer or agent in the discharge of his duty is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 2. 17 MRSA, § 1213-A, is enacted to read:

§ 1213-A. Impeding the performance of an officer

Any person who forcibly assaults, resists, opposes, impedes, intimidates or interferes with any person while engaged in or on account of the performance of his official duties under this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to clarify the authority of the Commissioner of Agriculture and his agents in the enforcement of the cruelty to animals statutes.