

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 561**

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H. P. 457 House of Representatives, February 6, 1975  
Referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Davies of Orono.

Cosponsor: Mr. Hughes of Auburn.

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## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE

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**AN ACT for the Humane Treatment of Animals in Schools, Public and Private.**

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

17 MRSA, § 1055, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:  
§ 1055. Vivisection prohibited in public schools

No school principal or headmaster shall allow any live animal to be used in any way in grades kindergarten to 8 of any public or private school, except displayed as a class pet, nor allow such pets to remain in school over periods when such school is not in session, unless in the custody of someone with access to the building at all times.

No school principal or headmaster shall allow any live mammal, bird or chelonian, excepting bird eggs to be used in any way in grades 9 to 12, nor in any activity associated with or sponsored by the school system, except livestock and poultry breeding and feeding associated with agricultural clubs.

Any animal, whose use is permitted under this section, shall be treated in accordance with a set of ethical standards to be promulgated by the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services after consultation with representative groups in the State having an interest or expertise in the field of animal welfare, biology or education.

Enforcement shall be the responsibility of the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services.

Whoever violates this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$75.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act will provide for more effective regulation of animal usage in secondary schools.