

L.D. 551

STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-1/2) 109TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " \mathcal{H} " to H.P. 434, L.D. 551, Bill, "AN ACT Establishing Penalties for Cutting Timber Without the Owner's Permission."

Amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'<u>17 MRSA §2510</u> is enacted to read: §2510. Unlawful cutting of trees

1. Unlawful cutting. Any person who intentionally, knowingly, recklessly or negligently cuts down or fells any tree without the consent of the owner of the property on which the tree stands commits a civil violation for which the forfeitures provided in this section may be adjudged.

2. Forfeitures. The following forfeitures may be adjudged for each tree which has been cut or felled:

A. If the tree is no more than 6 inches in diameter, a forfeiture of \$25;

B. If the tree is over 6 and up to 10 inches in diameter, a forfeiture of \$50;

C. If the tree is over 10 and up to 14 inches in diameter, a forfeiture of \$75;

D. If the tree is over 14 and up to 18 inches in diameter, a forfeiture of \$100;

E. If the tree is over 18 and up to 22 inches in diameter, a foreiture of \$125; and COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 434, L.D. 551 -2-

F. If the tree is greater than 22 inches in diameter, a forfeiture of \$150.

3. Diameter. For the purposes of determining the forfeiture, the diameter of a tree shall be the diameter of the stump remaining or the diameter of the tree at 4 1/2 feet from the ground if the remaining stump is higher than that distance.

Statement of Fact

This amendment clarifies the definition of diameter in the bill and adds specific penalties for diameters greater than 10 inches.

Reported by the Committee on Judiciary Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House 4/5/79 (Filing No. H-172)