

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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New Draft of: H. P. 1373, L. D. 1600
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1671

H. P. 1484

House of Representatives, June 5, 1979

Reported by the Majority from the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife.
Printed under Joint Rules No. 2

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Increase Revenues Available to the Department of Inland Fisheries
and Wildlife to Compensate for the Effects of Inflation on its Current License
Fees and its Costs.**

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

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA § 3554, first sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 24, is further amended to read:

Upon application of any incorporated or unincorporated club or organization having in its membership 25 or more members who are citizens who have been residents of the State for at least 6 months immediately prior to making application and the payment of a fee of ~~\$15~~ **\$18** the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may at its discretion issue a license to such club or organization to hold at the time and place stated in such license a field trial for sporting dogs for the purpose of demonstrating the skill of such dogs in retrieving dead or wounded game birds.

Sec. 2. 7 MRSA § 3554, 3rd sentence from the end, as amended by PL 1975, c. 497, § 3, is further amended to read:

Licensees shall pay the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for services of its representative at such field trials at the rate of ~~\$15~~ **\$18 or the actual costs to the department, whichever is higher**, per day.

Sec. 3. 7 MRSA § 3554-A, first sentence, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 25, is further amended to read:

Upon application of any incorporated or unincorporated club or organization having in its membership 25 or more members who are citizens who have been residents of the State for at least 6 months immediately prior to making application and the payment of a fee of ~~\$15~~ **\$18**, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may at its discretion issue a license to such club or organization to hold at the time and place stated in such license a field trial for sporting dogs for the purpose of demonstrating the skill of such dogs in retrieving dogs in retrieving dead or wounded game birds.

Sec. 4. 7 MRSA § 3554-A, first ¶, 3rd sentence from the end, as amended by PL 1975, c. 497, § 3, is further amended to read:

Licensees shall pay the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for services of its representative at such field trials at the rate of ~~\$15~~ **\$18 or the actual costs to the department, whichever is higher**, per day.

Sec. 5. 12 MRSA § 1904, 6th ¶ from the end, 4th sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 1, is further amended to read:

Each application shall be accompanied by a fee of ~~\$63~~ **\$66**.

Sec. 6. 12 MRSA § 2053, 7th ¶, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 5, is further amended to read:

A fee of ~~\$32~~ **\$35** shall be paid annually for a resident guide's license. Nonresidents may be so licensed upon payment of a fee of ~~\$125~~ **\$128**. Aliens may be so licensed upon payments of a fee of ~~\$150~~ **\$153**. Persons licensed under this section may hunt and fish by virtue of their guide's license.

Sec. 7. 12 MRSA § 2054, last sentence, as enacted by PL 1969, c. 425, § 56, is amended to read:

The fee for said permit shall be ~~\$5~~ **\$8** for counselors of Maine camps and ~~\$10~~ **\$13** for counselors of camps from other states.

Sec. 8. 12 MRSA § 2106, 6th ¶, 3rd sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 6, is further amended to read:

When it appears that such application is made in good faith, and upon the payment of an annual fee of ~~\$13~~ **\$16**, said commissioner may issue to the applicant a breeder's license permitting the breeding and rearing of any species of wild animals within such enclosure or on such island.

Sec. 9. 12 MRSA § 2255, 2nd sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 7, is further amended to read:

The fee for this license shall be ~~\$38~~ **\$41** for those camps with an enrollment of less than 50 campers, ~~\$63~~ **\$66** for those camps with an enrollment of not less than 50 campers but not more than 75 campers and ~~\$94~~ **\$97** for those camps with an enrollment of more than 75 campers.

Sec. 10. 12 MRSA § 2355, sub-§ 1, last sentence, as amended by PL 1965, c. 448, § 13, is further amended to read:

Said agent shall receive from the person registering a deer the sum of ~~25¢~~ **50¢** for each seal to be retained by him.

Sec. 11. 12 MRSA § 2355, sub-§ 6, last sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 8, is further amended to read:

This deer transportation tag shall cost ~~33~~ **\$6.50**, ~~50¢~~ **\$1** to be retained by the issuing agent.

Sec. 12. 12 MRSA § 2355, sub-§ 7, last sentence, as amended by PL 1977, c. 503, § 15, is further amended to read:

This deer transportation tag shall cost ~~\$53.50~~ **\$57**, ~~50¢~~ **\$1** to be retained by the issuing agent, except that no fee shall be required of any resident of this State who is serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Sec. 13. 12 MRSA § 2355-C, first ¶, last sentence, as enacted by PL 1969, c. 289, § 3, is further amended to read:

Said agent shall receive from the person registering a bear the sum of ~~25¢~~ **50¢** for each such seal to be retained by him.

Sec. 14. 12 MRSA § 2401, sub-§ 3, 2nd ¶, as amended by PL 1975, c. 516, § 12, is further amended to read:

Such appointed clerk or other agent shall retain a fee of ~~50¢~~ **\$1** for each license issued.

Sec. 15. 12 MRSA § 2401, sub-§ 3, ¶¶ A to G, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 9, are further amended to read:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| A. Resident junior hunting
10-16 years of age. | \$1.50 \$3.50 |
| B. Resident hunting
16 years of age or older. | \$7.50 11 |
| C. Junior nonresident hunting
10-16 years of age.
Permits hunting of all species except deer and bear. Application shall be accompanied by the written consent of his or her parent or guardian. | \$15.50 19 |
| D. Resident combination hunting and fishing. | \$12.50 17 |
| E. Nonresident small game hunting.
Permits hunting of all species except bear and deer. | \$30.50 34 |

- F.** Nonresident citizen big game hunting. ~~60.50~~ 65
Permits hunting for all species including bear and deer.
- G.** Alien big game hunting \$100 104
Permits hunting for all species including bear and deer.

Sec. 16. 12 MRSA § 2401, sub-§ 6, last sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 772, § 6, is amended to read:

Such stamp shall be issued by the commissioner or his authorized agent for a fee of ~~\$3.25~~ \$5, 25¢ 50¢ of which shall be retained by the agent and shall be exhibited to any warden or employee of the department upon request.

Sec. 17. 12 MRSA § 2401-B, sub-§ 3, ¶¶ A to F, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 10, is further amended to read:

- A.** Junior nonresident fishing ~~4.00~~ \$7.50
12-16 years of age.
- B.** Resident fishing \$7.50 11
16 years of age or older
- C.** Resident or nonresident 3-day fishing. \$7.50 11
Any resident of the State who procures a 3-day license may exchange the same for an annual resident fishing license in the town in which he resides upon the payment of 50¢ to the clerk or issuing agent.
- D.** Nonresident 7-day fishing ~~12.50~~ 16
Valid for 7 days from date as indicated on license.
- E.** Nonresident 15-day fishing ~~15.50~~ 19
Valid for 15 days from date as indicated on license.
- F.** Nonresident season fishing ~~25.50~~ 29
16 years or older

Sec. 18. 12 MRSA § 2401-B, sub-§ 3, ¶I is enacted to read:

I. A 15-day license may be exchanged for an annual license upon the additional payment of \$11.

Sec. 19. 12 MRSA § 2401-B, sub-§ 10, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 503, § 17, is further amended to read:

10. Licenses for Maine residents in Armed Forces. A combination fishing and hunting license shall be issued upon payment of ~~33~~ \$6, plus the issuing fee, to a Maine resident in the Armed Forces of the United States who is stationed outside the State of Maine. Such license will be valid during the year of issue.

Sec. 20. 12 MRSA § 2402, first 2 sentences, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 590, § 12, are amended to read:

Any resident who traps for any wild animal shall annually procure a license therefor from the commissioner, paying therefor ~~13~~ \$16. The fee for a nonresident for a trapping license shall be ~~250~~ \$253.

Sec. 26. 12 MRSA § 2466-B, 4th ¶, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 13, is further amended to read:

The fee for a falconry license shall be ~~13~~ \$16.

Sec. 22. 12 MRSA § 2502, sub-§§ 1 to 3, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 452, are amended to read:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. Resident archery license | 7.50 \$11 |
| 2. Combination resident archery hunting and fishing license, to be available from the department in Augusta only | 12.50 16.50 |
| 3. Nonresident archery license | 30.50 34 |

Sec. 23. 12 MRSA § 2502, 2nd ¶, first sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 452, is amended to read:

The issuing agent shall retain a fee of ~~50¢~~ \$1 for each license issued.

Sec. 24. 12 MRSA § 2552, sub-§ 7, ¶ A, 4th sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 297, § 1, is amended to read:

Any clerk or agent so appointed shall retain ~~25¢~~ 50¢ for each stamp issued.

Sec. 25. 12 MRSA § 2553-B, 2nd ¶, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 387 is amended to read:

The commissioner shall promulgate all rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, including, but not limited to: Limiting to 5 the number of black bass which any contestant may take, catch or kill during the scheduled hours of any tournament and requiring that precautions be taken so that, if possible, all fish caught may be retained alive and, following the close of the tournament, be released into the body from which they were taken; fixing the maximum total value of prizes which may be awarded at each tournament; and establishing a fee of ~~25~~ \$28 for a license to conduct a tournament under this section.

Sec. 26. 12 MRSA § 2557, 4th ¶, last sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1971, c. 130, is amended to read:

The fee for such license shall be ~~10~~ \$13.

Sec. 27. 12 MRSA § 2558, 3rd ¶, first sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 18, is further amended to read:

All persons dealing in live bait shall be licensed to do so by the commissioner, and the fee therefor shall be ~~\$13~~ **\$16** for each calendar year.

Sec. 28. 12 MRSA § 2558-A, first sentence, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 19, is further amended to read:

The fee for a live smelt bait dealer's license shall be ~~\$60~~ **\$63** for each calendar year.

Sec. 29. 12 MRSA § 2701, first ¶, last sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 503, § 25, is amended to read:

The minimum fee for these permits shall not be less than ~~\$32~~ **\$35**.

Sec. 30. 12 MRSA § 2751, 3rd ¶, 2nd sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 20, is further amended to read:

The license fee shall be ~~\$15~~ **\$18** and licenses shall be kept constantly and publicly posted in the office or place of business of the licensee.

Sec. 31. 12 MRSA § 2851, first sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 21, is further amended to read:

The commissioner may issue a license at an annual fee of ~~\$15~~ **\$18** to any person, firm or corporation, permitting the license to breed, rear or keep game birds or migratory game birds.

Sec. 32. 12 MRSA § 2851, 2nd ¶, 4th sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 22, is further amended to read:

Such seal shall be supplied by the commissioner at a cost of ~~10¢~~ **25¢**.

Sec. 33. 32 MRSA § 4351, 2nd sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 26, is further amended to read:

Residents of this State shall pay an annual fee of ~~\$7~~ **\$10**, except that unnaturalized, foreign-born residents shall pay an annual fee of ~~\$32~~ **\$35** for such license.

Sec. 34. 32 MRSA § 4352, 2nd ¶, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 27, is further amended to read:

Sec. 35. 32 MRSA § 4353, 3rd sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 590, § 28, is further amended to read:

The fee for the license shall be ~~\$32~~ **\$35** for residents of this State and ~~\$63~~ **\$66** for nonresidents to be paid to the said commissioner.

Sec. 36. Effective date. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 1980.

FISCAL NOTE

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife depends on dedicated revenues generated by license fees to fund its law enforcement, wildlife conservation and research programs. The type fee increases proposed will substantially reduce the revenue shortfall anticipated in this biennium as a result of inflation and salary increases for wardens and other personnel.

The department would receive approximately \$825,000 additional revenue annually. The new draft would also increase fees retained by municipal clerks and other license issuing agents by about \$200,000 annually.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This new draft creates \$3 across-the-board fee increase in fish and wildlife licenses. Several licenses, including combination licenses, are raised by a lesser amount.