

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1943

H. P. 1839

House of Representatives, February 12, 1980

Reported by Mr. Dow from the Joint Select Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Order H. P. 1517 and printed under Joint Rules No. 17.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk of the House

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY

AN ACT to Create a Harvest Fee for Big Game.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA § 7451, sub-§ 2, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 420, § 1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

2. Registration and harvest fees. The commissioner shall establish bear registration stations for the purpose of registering all bear killed and collecting harvest fees.

A. The commissioner shall designate an agent to be in charge of each registration station.

B. The commissioner shall publish a list of registration stations in one or more daily newspapers of the State.

C. Any person who kills a bear shall pay a harvest fee. This harvest fee shall be \$25.50 for nonresidents and \$10.50 for residents. Upon payment of this fee, agents shall register every bear legally presented for registration.

D. Agents shall attach a metal seal to each bear in the manner directed and with the materials furnished by the commissioner.

E. Agents shall retain 50¢ for each bear registered.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA § 7457, sub-§ 2, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 420, § 1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

2. Registration and harvest fees. The commissioner shall establish deer registration stations for the purpose of registering all deer killed and collecting harvest fees.

A. The commissioner shall designate an agent to be in charge of each registration station.

B. The commissioner shall publish a list of registration stations in one or more daily newspapers of the State.

C. Any person who kills a deer shall pay a harvest fee. Upon payment of this fee, agents shall register every deer legally presented for registration. The fees are:

(1) Nonresident fee for deer..... \$12.50

(2) Resident fee for deer..... \$10.50

D. Agents shall attach a metal seal to each deer in the manner directed and with the materials furnished by the commissioner.

E. Agents shall retain 50¢ for each deer registered.

F. All deer killed under section 7102 shall be inspected by a warden before being registered under this subsection. If the warden finds that the deer has been legally killed by bow and arrow, he shall approve the deer for registration.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Hunters are now required to register all deer and bear they bag and pay 25¢ for the registration seal. This bill creates a "harvest fee" rather than a registration fee for successful hunters. The fee is only paid by those actually harvesting the wildlife resource.

Trophy fees are as follows:

	Nonresident	Resident
Bear	\$25.50	\$10.50
Deer	12.50	10.50

The bill will raise approximately \$300,000 each year.