

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
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3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
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5 Legislative Document

No. 181

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7 H.P. 156

House of Representatives, January 13, 1983

8 Reference to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife. Sent up for  
9 concurrence and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Erwin of Rumford.

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11 STATE OF MAINE  
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14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE  
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17 AN ACT Concerning the Marking of  
18 Wild Birds.  
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20 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as  
21 follows:

22 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7235, sub-§4, as enacted by PL  
23 1979 c. 543, §24, is amended to read:

24 4. Restrictions.

25 A. No wild bird, either live or dressed, shall  
26 may be removed from the licensee's premises until  
27 a metallic ~~seal~~ leg band has been securely  
28 attached to each bird.

29 (1) This metallic ~~seal~~ leg band shall  
30 remain attached to the birds until they are  
31 finally prepared for consumption.

1           (2) The seal shall be supplied by the com-  
2           missioner at a cost of 10¢.

3           B. No wild animal, either live or dressed, or  
4           part thereof, shall may be removed from the  
5           licensee's premises until an identifying mark or  
6           seal has been securely attached to each animal.  
7           This seal or mark shall remain attached to that  
8           animal until it is finally prepared for consump-  
9           tion or manufactured into a finished product.  
10          This seal or mark shall be supplied by the licen-  
11          see and shall be registered with the commis-  
12          sioner.

13          C. No person may engage in the business of  
14          breeding or rearing white-tailed deer at any  
15          time.

16          D. No person may breed, rear or keep alive any  
17          animal taken in accordance with chapter 709, sub-  
18          chapter IV.

19          E. Notwithstanding this subsection, Ringneck  
20          pheasants shall be the only pheasants required to  
21          be marked with a metallic leg band.

22          Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §7240, sub-§3, as enacted by PL  
23          1979 c. 420, §1, is amended to read:

24          3. Restrictions. Upon receipt of shipment,  
25          importers of Ringneck pheasants shall attach securely  
26          to each bird a metallic seal leg band, ~~the type and~~  
27          ~~design of which shall be designated by the commis-~~  
28          ~~sioner.~~

29          A. This seal leg band shall remain attached to  
30          the birds until they are finally prepared for  
31          consumption.

32          B. ~~The seal shall be supplied by the commis-~~  
33          ~~sioner at a cost of 10¢ each.~~

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STATEMENT OF FACT

2           A change in the wording from seal to leg band  
3 will clarify how wild birds will be marked. The use  
4 of a metallic wing band, or clip, on a live bird sub-  
5 jects that bird to infection, if it is not properly  
6 cared for. Licensees should be able to select the  
7 type of leg band they want to use. Birds' legs vary  
8 in size, so, many different sizes are needed. The  
9 Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife should  
10 not be in the business of determining style nor  
11 should they be in the business of selling leg bands.  
12 It is less costly to purchase bands in quantity,  
13 which is what most licensees do.

14           This bill clarifies that only Ringneck pheasants  
15 will require banding. Most pheasants raised by  
16 licensees are exotic birds, they could not survive in  
17 the wild if they should escape.

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