



## 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## **FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989**

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**Legislative Document** 

No. 457

H.P. 338

House of Representatives, February 27, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture suggested and ordered printed.

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EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative MURPHY of Berwick. Cosponsored by Representative FARNUM of South Berwick and Representative SHELTRA of Biddeford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE

An Act to Authorize Assistance to Nurseries to Prevent Deer Damage.

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

12 MRSA 37504, sub- 5, A and B, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 420, are amended to read:

A. Whenever deer are doing damage to orchards and, <u>nurseries or</u> crops, including legumes, but excepting grass, the department shall furnish to the owner or agent of the orchards, <u>nurseries</u> and crops suitable repellants without cost to the owner or agent. The commissioner may follow other good conservation practices to alleviate the damage.

B. Whenever the commissioner deems it impossible to keep deer from doing damage to <u>nurseries</u> or young orchards, he <u>the commissioner</u> may enter into an agreement with the owner of a <u>nursery or</u> young orchard whereby the department will assume 1/2 the cost of fencing the orchard.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

Currently, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
is required to furnish deer repellant to orchards and farms when
deer are doing damage and to pay 1/2 the cost of fencing young
orchards in such situations.

This bill adds nurseries and nursery crops to the list of 29 agricultural businesses qualifying for this departmental assistance.

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