

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 907

H.P. 637

House of Representatives, February 28, 1991

Submitted by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative LOOK of Jonesboro.

Cosponsored by Representative NUTTING of Leeds, Senator TWITCHELL of Oxford and Senator WEBSTER of Franklin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

**An Act to Prevent Damage to Agricultural Crops, Beehives and
Livestock Caused by Wildlife and to Compensate Agricultural Producers
for Losses.**



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

12 MRSA §7502, sub-§§5 to 8 are enacted to read:

5. Wild Animal Damage Prevention Program. The commissioner shall develop a program known as the Wild Animal Damage Prevention Program. The purpose of this program is to prevent wild animals, including but not limited to deer, bear and coyotes, from causing damage to or loss of crops, beehives and livestock produced for profit.

A. The Wild Animal Damage Prevention Program is available to all eligible agricultural commodity producers.

B. To be eligible for the Wild Animal Damage Prevention Program, an agricultural commodity producer must demonstrate that damage has occurred or is likely to occur and must permit hunting on that producer's land.

C. The commissioner may pay a participant up to 75% of the expenses incurred to develop and implement a program to prevent wild animal damage. Eligible expenses include cost of construction, operation, maintenance or other measures to prevent wild animal damage.

D. The commissioner may provide technical assistance to an agricultural commodity producer in developing a plan to prevent wild animal damage. Wildlife protection measures included in the plan must be carried out by and be in full compliance with the department and requirements stipulated by the department.

6. Wild Animal Damage Claim Program. The commissioner shall develop a program known as the Wild Animal Damage Claim Program. The purpose of this program is to compensate agricultural commodity producers who grow crops, tend beehives and grow livestock for the extraordinary losses caused by wild animals, including but not limited to deer, bear and coyotes.

A. The Wild Animal Damage Claim Program is available to all agricultural commodity producers.

B. Wild animal damage claims may be paid only to an agricultural commodity producer that participates in the Wild Animal Damage Prevention Program. Wild animal damage claims may be paid only to an agricultural commodity producer whose losses exceed \$250 in any calendar year. Each producer may receive a maximum of \$5,000 in any calendar year. A producer must be using normal agricultural practices for the production of crops, beehives and livestock to be eligible for any payment.

allow hunting on the premises.

2

Funding for these programs is from an assessment of 50¢ of
4 the fee from each hunting license issued.