

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1277

H.P. 930

House of Representatives, February 27, 1997

An Act Concerning the Harvesting and Sampling of Ginseng.

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BAKER of Dixfield.
Cosponsored by Senator PARADIS of Aroostook and
Representatives: BUNKER of Kossuth Township, CROSS of Dover-Foxcroft, DEXTER of
Kingfield, GAGNE of Buckfield, McKEE of Wayne.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §2221, sub-§2 is enacted to read:**

5 **2. Wild ginseng.** "Wild ginseng" means ginseng growing,
6 living or found in a natural state. It does not include ginseng
7 planted in a wooded site.

8 **Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §2227 is enacted to read:**

10 **§2227. Protection of wild ginseng**

11 **1. Prohibition on harvest.** It is unlawful for a person to
12 harvest or transplant wild ginseng. No part of a wild ginseng
13 plant may be picked or removed from the site on which it is
14 growing except as provided in subsection 2.

15 **2. Permit for tissue sampling and seed collection.** A
16 person may make application to the department for a permit to
17 collect seed from wild ginseng plants or to sample tissue from
18 wild ginseng plants. Upon reviewing an application and
19 determining the applicant has satisfactory knowledge of
20 appropriate collection and sampling techniques, the department
21 may issue a site specific permit for the collection of seed or
22 for the sampling of tissue from wild ginseng plants.

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25 **SUMMARY**

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31 This bill prohibits the harvesting or transplanting of wild
32 ginseng. The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources
33 is authorized to issue permits for seed collection and tissue
34 sampling from wild ginseng plants.