

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Sixty-Ninth Legislature.

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SENATE.

No. 7.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE for the purpose of operating the fish hatcheries and feeding stations for fish and for the proper enforcement of the inland fish and game laws.

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*Resolved,* That the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars is  
2 hereby appropriated to be expended by the Commissioners of  
3 Inland Fisheries and Game, under the direction of the Gov-  
4 ernor and Council, for the year eighteen hundred and ninety-  
5 nine, and also twenty-five thousand dollars for the year nine-  
6 teen hundred, for the purpose of operating the fish hatcheries  
7 and feeding stations for fish in the State, and for the proper  
8 enforcement of the inland fish and game laws. Provided,  
9 also, that the Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game  
10 may purchase or lease real estate, in the name of the State,  
11 for the purpose of maintaining fish hatcheries and feeding

12 stations for fish culture, and may also assist in maintaining  
13 fish hatcheries for fish culture owned and under the manage-  
14 ment of fish and game associations; and provided, also, that the  
15 commissioners shall make a detailed statement in their report  
16 of all expenditures of money expended under this resolve.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS.

This resolve is in the usual form of all of the resolves adopted by the legislature upon this subject, and is for the same amount that has been appropriated by the last two preceding legislatures.

The work of this department has greatly increased during the past few years, especially along the lines of fish culture and the distribution of trout and land-locked salmon in the inland waters raised at the four State Hatcheries and feeding stations.

The call from the people for the product of our hatcheries is earnest and pressing. It has been impossible to raise anywhere near enough fish to meet these requests, nor can it be done with the amount of money appropriated by this resolve. To operate the hatcheries and feeding stations as fully as has been done during the last two years, secure spawn from the parent fish, distribute the product of the hatcheries in the various lakes and ponds of the State adapted to propagating them after being planted with a limited warden service to guard the parent fish on their spawning beds, actual travelling expenses of the commissioners to attend properly to the duties imposed upon them by law, publication of newspaper notices, legal services necessarily required, and clerical help will require at least \$20,000 on the most economical plan. There will then remain \$5,000 for warden service for big game, which, when spread over the entire State, does not by any means give adequate warden service.

The fees for licenses of guides and others and fines paid will perhaps amount to two or three thousand dollars, which will be available for this purpose. To have anything near like adequate warden service, such as would properly protect the big game and the game birds of the State, would require more than double the amount called for by this resolve. The commissioners have given, and will continue to give, their close personal attention to all the details of the department,—one or more of them giving their entire time to the work, and all of them devoting very largely of their time to carry out the purposes for which this money is appropriated.

Great interest is constantly manifested by the citizens of this and other states in our inland fish and game interests.

His Excellency, Governor Powers, in his admirable address to the legislature said, "that nearly or quite two-thirds of our area is covered with water and woods. With each recurring year large and constantly increasing numbers visit our State to hunt and fish, and enjoy the blessings of its invigorating and health restoring climate. It costs the State no small sum to stock and replenish these rivers and lakes with fish and to protect and care for this large game preserve."

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, January 19, 1899.

Reported by Mr. VICKERY from Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game, and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, *Secretary.*