

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)

SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

No. 220

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND NINE.

AN ACT to amend Chapter four of the Revised Statutes, relating to better Protection of Sheep.

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

Section 1. Revised Statutes, chapter four, section fifty-
2 three, is hereby amended by striking out the whole of said
3 section and inserting in place thereof the following:

‘Section 53. Whenever any sheep, lambs or other domestic
5 animals owned by a resident of this State are killed or in-
6 jured by dogs or wild animals, such owner may make com-
7 plaint thereof to the mayor of the city or to one of the mu-
8 nicipal officers of the town or plantation where such dam-
9 age was done within seven days after he has knowledge of
10 the same. And thereupon the municipal officers shall inves-

11 tigate such complaint, and if satisfied that such damage was
12 committed by dogs or wild animals within the limits of their
13 city, town or plantation, they shall estimate the amount
14 thereof and in case said sheep or other animals are killed,
15 that an amount equal to the same and fifty per cent in ex-
16 cess thereof be paid to such owner from the town treasury,
17 and in case any sheep, lambs or other animals are bitten
18 or otherwise injured by dogs or wild animals an amount
19 equal to the damage done which shall be estimated at not less
20 than one-half the value of a sheep, shall be paid to such
21 owner from the town treasury. Provided, however, that
22 in case of sheep, lambs or other domestic animals injured by
23 dogs or wild animals, the mayor of the city or the municipal
24 officers of the town or plantation may take such sheep, lambs
25 or other domestic animals at their appraised value.'

Sect. 2. Revised Statutes, chapter four, section sixty, as
2 amended by chapter nineteen and chapter one hundred and
3 seventy-eight of the Public Laws of A. D. 1907, is hereby
4 amended by striking out the whole of said section and in-
5 serting in place thereof the following:

'Section 60. Whoever is so assaulted or finds a dog run-
7 ning at large outside of the immediate control of its owner
8 or keeper, whether said dog is dangerous or vicious or other-
9 wise, may make written complaint before any municipal or
10 police court or trial justice having jurisdiction in the city
11 or town where the owner or keeper resides, whereupon said
12 court or trial justice shall order said owner or keeper to

13 appear and answer to said complaint by serving said owner
14 or keeper of said dog with a copy of said complaint and
15 order a reasonable time before the day set for a hearing
16 thereon, and if upon hearing the court or trial justice in the
17 exercise of his discretion, believes that said dog, from the
18 evidence produced at said hearing, ought to be either killed,
19 confined or removed from the limits of said city or town, he
20 may issue his order accordingly, stating the time within
21 which said order shall be carried into effect. Any such own-
22 er or keeper who neglects or refuses to comply with any or-
23 der authorized under this section shall be deemed guilty of
24 a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof before any mu-
25 nicipal or police court or trial justice having jurisdiction
26 within the city or town where said owner or keeper resides,
27 shall be fined not less than five nor more than fifteen dollars
28 and costs of prosecution, said fine to be for the use of the
29 schools in the city or town where said owner or keeper re-
30 sides.'

All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby
32 repealed.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE,

February 18, 1909.

Came from the House referred to the Committee on Agriculture and on motion by Mr. HOWES of Somerset tabled for printing pending reference in concurrence.

F. G. FARRINGTON, *Secretary*.