

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 325

House of Representatives, March 4, 1919.

Referred to Committee on Agriculture and 500 ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Garcelon of Auburn.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Regulate and License Operators of Slaughter
Houses.

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

Section 1. Any person, firm, corporation or association
2 conducting, operating or managing a slaughter house shall,
3 on or before the first day of July in each year, obtain a
4 license from the commissioner of agriculture; said license
5 shall be for a period of one year, to be renewed annually,
6 and shall be in full force and effect so long as its holder
7 complies with the provisions of the pure food and public
8 health laws and regulations. The term "slaughter house"
9 as used herein shall be held to include any establishment

10 wherein animals are slaughtered for human consumption ;
11 provided, that nothing in this act shall be construed as re-
12 ferring to original producers who engage in selling and
13 distributing meat and meat products grown and slaughtered
14 by themselves.

Sect. 2. Licensees under this act shall be classified and
2 required to pay fees as follows: A licensee hereunder
3 who handles annually meat and meat products in his
4 slaughter houses of a greater gross value than twenty-five
5 hundred dollars shall be designated as a Class A licensee,
6 and shall pay the commissioner of agriculture ten dollars
7 per annum as license fee; a licensee hereunder, the gross
8 value of whose products as above does not exceed annually
9 the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars, shall be designated
10 as a Class B licensee, and shall pay to the commissioner of
11 agriculture as license fee the sum of two dollars per an-
12 num, provided that any person doing business as specified
13 in section one hereof who is subject to the system of fed-
14 eral inspection, is to be known as a Class C licensee, and
15 is not subject to the paying of a license fee. Failure to
16 comply with the regulations and provisions of the pure
17 food law shall cause the forfeiture of license under this
18 chapter, and during such forfeiture it shall be unlawful
19 for any person whose license is suspended to conduct any
20 slaughtering business, except as specially provided by the
21 commissioner of agriculture, and each day's operation after
22 revocation and during suspension of license, other than as

23 provided by the commissioner of agriculture, shall consti-
24 tute a separate offence.

Sect. 3. The commissioner of agriculture shall each year
2 issue licenses as herein provided, on or before the first
3 day of July, upon receipt of applications accompanied by
4 the necessary fee, and written statement from the applicant
5 setting forth that said applicant has conformed to the laws
6 of the state regulating pure food, sanitation and public
7 health, in such places of business.

Sect. 4. No transfer of license or removal of licensed
2 slaughter house or change of place of slaughtering or doing
3 business shall be permitted without the written approval of
4 the commissioner of agriculture.

Sect. 5. The commissioner of agriculture, in person or
2 by his agent or representative, shall have the right to enter
3 and inspect all premises of all persons hereunder licensed,
4 and shall have full and free access, ingress and egress at
5 all times to all buildings, rooms, equipments, utensils, and
6 storage houses, used or useful for the business of slaughter-
7 ing animals and for storing the products thereof. And
8 the commissioner of agriculture in person or by his agent
9 or representative shall also have the right to examine any
10 and all property, to examine all records of any licensee
11 pertaining to said slaughtering business, and to copy the
12 same for the purpose of determining the proper classifica-
13 tion of said licensee.

Sect. 6. The commissioner of agriculture shall make

2 uniform rules and regulations for carrying out the provi-
3 sions of this chapter, and may publish them, with such
4 other information as he may deem to be of public benefit.
5 For enforcing the provisions of this chapter, the commis-
6 sioner of agriculture shall be entitled to and shall receive
7 the assistance of the attorney general and the several coun-
8 ty attorneys; he may recover the penalties imposed for
9 violation of this chapter in an action of debt, brought in
10 his own name, the venue to be as in other civil cases, and
11 if he prevails in any action, he shall recover full costs; or
12 he may prosecute for violations hereof by complaint or
13 indictment, and such prosecution shall be commenced in
14 the county in which the offence was committed. All money
15 collected for license fees under the provisions of this act
16 shall be deposited to the credit of the commissioner of
17 agriculture, and all fines received under this chapter by
18 county treasurers shall be paid by them to the commission-
19 er of agriculture, and all money received by the commis-
20 sioner of agriculture under this chapter shall be paid by
21 him to the treasurer of state, and the same is hereby ap-
22 propriated to be expended in the enforcement of the pro-
23 visions of this chapter.

Sect. 7. Any person, firm or corporation who violates
2 any of the provisions of this chapter shall be punished by
3 a fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than fifty dol-
4 lars for the first offence, and for a second or subsequent

5 offence by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars nor
6 more than one hundred dollars.

Sect. 8. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with any
2 of the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.