

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 348

House of Representatives, March 18, 1921.

Reported by Mr. Winter from Committee on State Lands and Forest Preservation, and ordered printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND
NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-ONE

AN ACT to Amend Section Seventy of Chapter Eight of the Revised Statutes, Relative to Forest Fire Fighters in the Maine Forestry District.

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

Section seventy of chapter eight of the revised statutes
2 is hereby amended by striking out the word "twenty" in
3 the sixteenth line thereof, and substituting in place thereof
4 the word 'thirty', so that said section as amended shall read
5 as follows:

'Sect. 70. Whenever a fire occurs on, or is likely to do
2 damage to forest lands within the district of any chief forest
3 fire warden, he shall take immediate action to control and
4 extinguish the same. If such fire occurs upon or is likely

5 to do damage to forest lands within the territory of a dep-
6 uty forest fire warden and the chief fire warden of the dis-
7 trict is not present, the deputy forest fire warden having
8 jurisdiction of the territory shall forthwith proceed to con-
9 trol and extinguish the same, and he shall meanwhile, with
10 all consistent dispatch, cause the said chief fire warden of
11 the district to be notified of the occurrence of such fire.
12 Until the arrival of the chief warden at the place of fire,
13 the deputy warden shall be in charge of the control and
14 extinguishment of the same. For the purpose of control-
15 ling and extinguishing fires, chief forest fire wardens, and
16 deputy forest fire wardens, when in charge of the control
17 and extinguishment of forest fires or when so directed by
18 the chief warden, may summon to their assistance any per-
19 son found within the state and each person so summoned
20 and assisting shall be paid thirty cents for each hour of
21 service rendered by him and be provided with subsistence
22 during such service. Immediately after the extinguishment
23 of a fire, the deputy forest fire warden who for any time
24 may have been in charge of the same, shall make return
25 to the chief warden of the district of the expense thereof
26 during the period of his being in charge, including the names
27 of the persons so summoned and assisting, with their post
28 office addresses and the hours of labor actually performed
29 by each under his direction. The return shall be made
30 upon oath and the chief warden is hereby authorized and
31 empowered to administer such oath. Upon receipt of such

32 return, the chief fire warden shall carefully examine and
33 audit the same, and he may direct the deputy to amend and
34 correct any return found to be incomplete, incorrect, or
35 insufficient in form. If upon examination and auditing of
36 said return, and investigation of the subject matter thereof,
37 the chief fire warden believes said return to be just and
38 correct, he shall endorse his written approval thereon and
39 forward the same so approved to the forest commissioner.
40 The chief fire warden of every district burned by a forest
41 fire shall, upon the extinguishment of such fire, promptly
42 forward an exact and detailed statement of the expense,
43 if any, which he may have incurred in connection with the
44 extinguishment of such fire, to the forest commissioner,
45 who may confirm, reject or recommit, either or both, the
46 approved return of said deputy or the detailed statement
47 of the chief fire warden, if justice so requires.'