

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE**

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**HOUSE**

**NO. 451**

House of Representatives, March 31, 1921.

Reported by Mr. Bragdon from Committee on Agriculture  
and ordered printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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

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AN ACT to Amend Section One Hundred and Ten of Chapter  
Four of the Revised Statutes, Relating to Payment of Dam-  
ages Done by Dogs and Wild Animals to Domestic Animals.

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

Section one hundred and ten of chapter four of the re-  
vised statutes is hereby amended by inserting after the word  
“animals” in the second line of said section, the words  
‘poultry not included,’ so that said section as amended shall  
read as follows:

‘Sect. 110. Whenever any sheep, lambs, or other domestic  
animals, poultry not included, owned by a resident of this  
state are killed or injured by dogs or wild animals, such

4 owner may make complaint thereof to the mayor of the  
5 city, or to one of the municipal officers of the town or plan-  
6 tation where such damage was done, within seven days  
7 after he has knowledge of the same, and thereupon the  
8 municipal officers shall investigate the complaint, and if  
9 satisfied that the said damage was committed by dogs or  
10 wild animals within the limits of their city, town or plan-  
11 tation, they shall estimate the damage thereof according to  
12 the full value for which they are kept, whether as breeders  
13 or for other purposes, and direct that the same with fifty  
14 per cent additional shall be paid from the town treasury.  
15 If the municipal officers and the owner of the sheep or  
16 domestic animals are unable to agree as to the amount of  
17 the damage which shall be paid, the amount shall be deter-  
18 mined by three referees to be selected in manner follow-  
19 ing: one referee to be chosen by the municipal officers, one  
20 by the owner of the animals injured or killed, and the third  
21 by the two referees already selected. In case one party  
22 refuses or neglects to select a referee, the other party, after  
23 thirty days from the time the notice of the aforesaid dam-  
24 age was given or received, shall select two referees, and  
25 the two selected shall choose the third. The said referees  
26 shall submit a written report, signed by a majority, within  
27 fifteen days from the date of their appointment, stating the  
28 amount to be paid by the town. The report of said referees  
29 shall be final and the expenses of the referees shall be di-  
30 vided equally between the owner of the animals and the  
31 town, city or plantation. Any town paying such damages

32 caused by dogs may maintain an action on the case against  
33 the owner or keeper of such dogs to recover the amount  
34 paid, not exceeding the actual damage committed and fifty  
35 per cent additional. Any person who keeps a dog that kills  
36 or injures sheep or lambs shall be fined not less than fifty,  
37 nor more than one hundred dollars and costs, unless before  
38 the final disposition of the case, the said owner or keeper  
39 of the said dog produces satisfactory evidence that the dog  
40 has been killed.'