

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 181

House of Representatives, Feb. 23, 1923.

Referred to Committee on State Lands and Forest Preservation and five hundred copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Rounds of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend Section Fifty-three of Chapter Eight of the Revised Statutes, as Amended by Chapter One Hundred Eleven of the Public Laws, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nineteen, and Chapter One Hundred Seventy-four of the Public Laws, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-one, Relative to the Slash Law.

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

Section fifty-three of chapter eight of the revised statutes,
2 as amended by chapter one hundred eleven of the public
3 laws, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and by chap-
4 ter one hundred seventy-four of public laws, one thousand

5 nine hundred and twenty-one is hereby amended by strik-
6 ing out the second sentence in section fifty-three: "Any
7 person, firm, corporation or agent cutting any forest growth
8 on property adjacent to woodlands owned by another with-
9 in the state outside the limits of the Maine forestry dis-
10 trict, and all such firms, persons and corporations, who by
11 themselves, their agents, servants, licensees, permittees or
12 lessees operate, or permit operation of portable sawmills
13 on land which borders on woodland shall dispose of slash
14 and debris caused by cutting in such a manner that inflam-
15 mable material shall not remain on the ground within fifty
16 feet of the line of cutting on the side or sides towards such
17 woodland," so that said section, as amended, shall read as
18 follows:

'Sect. 53. Any person, firm, corporation or agent, cut-
2 ting any forest growth on property adjacent to the right
3 of way of any railroad or highway within the state, shall
4 leave the growth uncut on the land within fifty feet of the
5 limit of the right of way of a railroad or center of the
6 wrought portion of any plantation, town, city, county or
7 state road; (or shall dispose of slash and debris caused by
8 cutting in such a manner that inflammable material shall
9 not remain on the ground within fifty feet of the limit of
10 the right of way of a railroad or center of the wrought
11 portion of any plantation, town, city, county or state road).
12 Provided, however, that consent and direction in writing
13 from the forestry department shall be required for the

14 burning of such brush or slash or for the burning of blue-
15 berry land when such land is adjacent to any forest growth
16 except when the ground is covered with snow. The forest
17 commissioner shall cause to be furnished to all the chief for-
18 est fire wardens and to the municipal officers of all towns and
19 organized plantations of the state, blank permits, signed by
20 him, for the burning of brush or slash or for the burning
21 of blueberry land. Any chief forest fire warden or the
22 municipal officers of the town, in the county where the land
23 is located shall have full authority to countersign and grant
24 such permits signed by the forest commissioner. The for-
25 est commissioner may, however, in any particular case called
26 to his attention, overrule the decision of the chief forest
27 fire warden or the municipal officers, and himself grant the
28 permit asked for or forbid the granting of the same. Who-
29 ever violates any of the provisions of this section shall on
30 conviction thereof be punished by a fine of fifty dollars.'