

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY - THIRD LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 154

H. P. 587 House of Representatives, Feb. 15, 1927.

Referred to Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game and
500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Wing of Kingfield.

S T A T E O F M A I N E

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

AN ACT Relating to Protection of Beaver.

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

Section forty-five of chapter thirty-three of the revised
2 statutes as amended by section fourteen of chapter one hun-
3 dred ninety-six of the laws of nineteen hundred nineteen
4 is hereby amended by striking out all of said section and
5 by substituting therefor the following section:

‘Sect. 45. The commissioner of inland fisheries and game,
2 upon written complaint of any water company required to
3 furnish pure water to its customers, that beaver are pol-
4 luting its water supply, shall have authority to declare an
5 open season for beaver on such sections of land and waters
6 as is necessary to remove the beaver that are polluting said

7 waters; or upon written complaint of any land owner that
8 beaver are doing actual, substantial damage to his property,
9 shall have authority to declare an open season for beaver
10 upon such land for such period of time and under such
11 conditions as he may deem necessary to remove the beaver
12 that are doing the damage complained of, during which open
13 season it shall be lawful for any person holding a beaver
14 trapping license issued in accordance with the provisions
15 of section fifty of this chapter to trap beaver thereon with-
16 out securing permission of the land owner. No open sea-
17 son for beaver as contemplated by this section shall take
18 effect until the commissioner of inland fisheries and game
19 shall have caused notice of such proposed open season to
20 be published once in a newspaper printed in the county in
21 which the land on which the open season for beaver is de-
22 clared is located, and said commissioner shall also file copy
23 of said notice of open season with the clerk of the town or
24 plantation in which such land is located, or, if the land is
25 in an unorganized place, with the clerk of courts for the
26 county in which the land is located. Whenever during a
27 special open season on beaver as is contemplated by this sec-
28 tion it shall appear to the commissioner of inland fisheries
29 and game that the privileges of such open season are being
30 abused in any place, said commissioner of inland fisheries
31 and game may suspend the open season and declare it close
32 season for beaver on such land for such time as he may
33 designate. No person shall take any beaver anywhere in

34 the state at any time except during such open season as
35 may be declared by the commissioner of inland fisheries
36 and game in accordance with the provisions of this section.
37 Whoever takes any beaver in violation of any provision
38 of this section shall be punished by a fine of one hundred
39 dollars and costs for each beaver taken, caught, or killed
40 in violation of any provision of this section. It shall also
41 be unlawful, under the same penalty, for any person to
42 have in possession at any time any beaver, or part thereof,
43 taken in violation of any provision of this section. It shall
44 also be unlawful, under the same penalty, for any person,
45 firm or corporation, to sell, give away, buy, accept as a gift,
46 offer for transportation or transport any beaver skin or
47 beaver skins unless each skin is marked with an official seal
48 by the commissioner of inland fisheries and game or by an
49 agent duly appointed by said commissioner to mark such
50 skins.'