

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

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**EIGHTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE**

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**House Document**

**No. 609**

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H. P. 1281            House of Representatives, Apr. 5, 1927.

Reported by Mr. MacKinnon from Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game and laid on table to be 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-SEVEN**

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**AN ACT** Relating to Protection of Fur-bearing Animals.

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

Section forty-six of chapter two hundred and nineteen  
2 of the public laws of nineteen hundred and seventeen, as  
3 amended by chapter one hundred and thirty-three of the  
4 public laws of nineteen hundred and nineteen, as amended  
5 by chapter two hundred and eighteen of the public laws of  
6 nineteen hundred and twenty-one, as amended by chapter  
7 two hundred and fourteen of the public laws of nineteen  
8 hundred and twenty-three, and as amended by chapter  
9 eighty-seven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and  
10 twenty-five, is hereby amended by striking out all of said

11 section and by substituting therefor the following section:

    'Sect. 46. Whoever, from the fifteenth day of February  
2 to the thirty-first day of the following October, both days  
3 inclusive, hunts, traps, kills, pursues or catches any fur-  
4 bearing animal (except bears, muskrat, beaver, bobcats,  
5 loupervier or Canada lynx, weasels and foxes), or who-  
6 ever, from the fifteenth day of February to the fifteenth  
7 day of the following October, both days inclusive, hunts,  
8 traps, kills, pursues or catches any fox or foxes, in the  
9 county of Aroostook, Penobscot, Washington, Hancock,  
10 Piscataquis, Somerset, Franklin or Oxford, or whoever,  
11 from the fifteenth day of February to the thirty-first day  
12 of the following October, both days inclusive, hunts, traps,  
13 kills, pursues or catches any fox or foxes, in the county of  
14 Androscoggin, Cumberland, York, Sagadahoc, Kennebec,  
15 Lincoln, Waldo or Knox, or whoever, from the first day of  
16 May to the thirtieth day of the following November, both  
17 days inclusive, hunts, traps, kills, pursues or catches any  
18 muskrat or muskrats in the county of Androscoggin, Cum-  
19 berland, York, Sagadahoc, Kennebec, Lincoln, Waldo or  
20 Knox, or whoever, from the fifteenth day of May to the  
21 thirty-first day of the following October, both days inclu-  
22 sive, hunts, traps, kills, pursues or catches any muskrat or  
23 muskrats in the county of Washington, Hancock, Aroos-  
24 took, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Franklin, Somerset or Oxford,  
25 or whoever has in possession at any time any fur-bearing  
26 animal or part or parts thereof taken in closed season shall

27 pay a fine of ten dollars and costs for each offense, and in  
28 addition thereto three dollars for each fur-bearing animal  
29 hunted, trapped, killed, pursued, caught or had in possession  
30 in violation hereof.

Provided, further, it shall be unlawful, under the same  
2 penalty, for any person to hunt, trap or pursue any muskrat  
3 or muskrats on Cobbosseecontee stream, or on any tributary  
4 to said stream, from the outlet of Cobbosseecontee lake  
5 to the reservoir dam at the New Mills, so-called, in the  
6 city of Gardiner, which waters are situated partly in the  
7 county of Kennebec and partly in the county of Sagadahoc,  
8 *except* during the month of April of each year; provided,  
9 further, it shall be unlawful, under the same penalty, for  
10 any person to hunt, kill, trap, pursue or catch any muskrat  
11 or muskrats at any time from the first day of May of each  
12 year to the fifteenth day of March of the following year,  
13 both days inclusive, in the Sebesticook river, in the county  
14 of Penobscot, or in the East Branch, so-called, of said  
15 river, or in the West Branch, so-called, of said river. pro-  
16 vided, further, it shall be unlawful, under the same penalty,  
17 for any person to take, catch, trap, kill, or destroy any musk-  
18 rat or muskrats at any time in Lower Kezar Pond, in the  
19 town of Fryeburg in the county of Oxford, and in the town  
20 of Bridgton in the county of Cumberland, or in the outlet  
21 stream of said Lower Kezar Pond, or in the Kezar Mead-  
22 ows, so-called, adjacent to said pond (which meadows are  
23 bounded by the outlet stream of said pond, by the Old Saco

24 River, by the "Uplands," so-called, and by the "Upland"  
25 on the easterly side of said meadows) or in the east bog,  
26 so-called, or in the west bog, so-called, bounded by the "Up-  
27 lands," and on the westerly side by a wire fence on land  
28 owned by E. C. Buzzell; *except* that it shall be lawful to  
29 take muskrats within said territory in the usual manner of  
30 trapping, in accordance with the general statutes of the state,  
31 during the months of March and April of each year; pro-  
32 vided, further, it shall be unlawful, under the same penalty,  
33 for any person to hunt, trap, kill, pursue or catch any musk-  
34 rat or muskrats at any time in Songo River, a tributary to  
35 Sebago Lake, which lake is situated in the county of Cum-  
36 berland, or in Crooked River, also a tributary to said Sebago  
37 Lake, up as far as Edes Falls bridge; provided, further, it  
38 shall be unlawful, under the same penalty, for any person  
39 to have in possession at any time any muskrat or muskrats,  
40 or part or parts thereof, taken in closed season in any of the  
41 above named waters.

Provided, further, it shall be unlawful for any person to  
2 set a trap at any time within twenty-five feet of, or to molest  
3 or destroy, a muskrat house, under a penalty of ten dollars  
4 and costs for each offense.

Whoever at any time hunts, traps, kills, pursues, catches,  
2 or has in possession any beaver, or part or parts thereof,  
3 *except* as provided in the preceding section, or whoever, at  
4 any time, molests or destroys a beaver house, or sets a trap  
5 within twenty-five feet thereof, shall pay a fine of one hun-

6 dred dollars and costs for each offense, or be imprisoned  
7 not exceeding sixty days, or be subject to both said fine and  
8 imprisonment.

Provided, however, that any person may lawfully kill any  
2 wild animal (other than beaver) or any wild bird found  
3 destroying his property.

Provided, further, that it shall be lawful to hunt, catch,  
2 pursue and kill skunks and raccoons at night with dog or  
3 gun from the first day of October of each year to the fif-  
4 teenth day of the following December, both days inclusive,  
5 in the counties of Androscoggin, Cumberland, Kennebec,  
6 Sagadahoc, York, Knox, Lincoln, Waldo and Oxford.