

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY - THIRD LEGISLATURE

Senate Document

No. 194

S. P. 430

In Senate, Mar. 8, 1927.

Referred to Committee on State Lands and Forest Preservation and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Roberts of York.

• STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT for the Preservation, Perpetuation and Increase of
the Forests of the State of Maine.

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

Chapter seventy-eight of the public laws of nineteen hundred twenty-one, as amended by chapter one hundred thirty-eight of the public laws of nineteen hundred twenty-three, is hereby further amended by striking out the words "land agent" and "state land agent," wherever the same are found in said chapters and inserting in place thereof the words 'forest commissioner.'

Sect. 2. Section four of said chapter seventy-eight of the public laws of nineteen hundred twenty-one is hereby

3 amended by adding in the fourth line after the word "sale"
4 the following: 'and which are capable of producing fifteen
5 thousand feet board measure of soft wood, and eight thou-
6 sand feet board measure of hard wood, or their equivalent,
7 per average acre, exclusive of ledges, swamps, bogs, or
8 ponds' and by adding after the word "state" in the last
9 line thereof the following: 'upon receipt of applicatcn of
10 owners for inclusion of land as a part of the auxiliary state
11 forests, unless the primary purpose shall be to produce
12 timber for manufacture or sale, the assessors shall notify
13 the owner within thirty days of the acceptance or rejection,
14 of said application. If the assessors reject the application
15 or fail to take action within thirty days, the applicant may
16 appeal to the forest commissioner, who shall have an in-
17 vestigation made, and, if in his judgment the land is capable
18 of producing timber as required by this section, shall grant
19 such application,' so that said section, as amended, shall read
20 as follows:

'Sect. 4. Auxiliary state forests shall include all areas
2 owned by corporations, firms, or individuals, now covered
3 by trees or which shall be planted to trees for use as fuel,
4 manufacture or sale, and which are capable of producing
5 fifteen thousand feet, board measure, of soft wood, and
6 eight thousand feet, board measure, of hard wood, or their
7 equivalent, per average acre, exclusive of ledges, swamps,
8 bogs, or ponds, the owner of which, shall in cities and or-
9 ganized townships have filed with assessors and forest com-

10 missioner, and in unorganized townships with the forest
11 commissioner, plans or description of such tracts with a
12 request that the same be included as a part of the auxiliary
13 forests of the state; upon receipt of application of owners
14 for inclusion of land as a part of the auxiliary state forests,
15 unless the primary purpose shall be to produce timber for
16 manufacture or sale, the assessors shall notify the owner
17 within thirty days of the acceptance or rejection of said
18 application. If the assessors reject the application or fail
19 to take action within thirty days, the applicant may appeal
20 to the forest commissioner, who shall have an investigation
21 made, and, if in his judgment the land is capable of pro-
22 ducing timber as required by this section, shall grant such
23 application.

Sect. 3. Section nine of chapter seventy-eight of the pub-
2 lic laws as amended by chapter one hundred thirty-eight of
3 the public laws of nineteen hundred twenty-three is hereby
4 further amended by striking out all after the word "land"
5 in the third line thereof and inserting in place thereof the
6 following: 'which shall be appraised at the same valuation
7 as stripped forest land in the same vicinity; provided, how-
8 ever, that such valuation shall not exceed two dollars per
9 acre, independent of any great pond therein,' so that said
10 section, as amended, shall read as follows:

'Sect. 9. State, town and plantation assessors shall, for
2 the purpose of taxing auxiliary state forests, appraise only
3 the land, which shall be appraised at the same valuation as

4 stripped forest land in the same vicinity; provided, how-
5 ever, that such valuation shall not exceed two dollars per
6 acre, independent of any great pond therein.'

Sect. 4. Section seventeen of chapter seventy-eight of the
2 public laws of nineteen hundred twenty-one, as amended
3 by chapter one hundred thirty-eight of the public laws of
4 nineteen hundred twenty-three, is hereby further amended
5 by striking out after the word "land" in the fourth line
6 thereof and inserting in place thereof the following: 'the
7 payment of the tax on the full value of trees thereon, to-
8 gether with all expenses of administration incurred by the
9 forest commissioner,' so that said section, as amended, shall
10 read as follows:

'Sect. 17. Provided that all or any part of any land in-
2 cluded in the auxiliary state forest may be withdrawn when
3 for any reason it becomes more valuable for other purposes,
4 by filing with the forest commissioner description of such
5 land and the payment of the tax on the full value of trees
6 thereon, together with all expenses of administration in-
7 curred by the forest commissioner.'