

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

EIGHTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Senate Document

No. 357

S. P. 599

In Senate, Apr. 4, 1927.

Reported by Senator Bond from Committee on State Lands and Forest Preservation and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

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:

Section 1. Chapter seventy-eight of the public laws of
2 nineteen hundred twenty-one, as amended by chapter one
3 hundred thirty-eight of the public laws of nineteen hundred
4 twenty-three, is hereby further amended by striking out the
5 words "land agent" and "state land agent," wherever the
6 same are found in said chapters and inserting in place there-
7 of the words 'forest commissioner.'

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

3 ed by adding in the fourth line after the word "sale" the
4 following: 'and which are capable of producing at maturity
5 fifteen thousand feet board measure of soft wood, or eight
6 thousand feet board measure of hard wood, or their equiva-
7 lent, per average acre, exclusive of ledges, swamps, bogs, or
8 ponds' and by adding after the word "state" in the last line
9 thereof the following: 'upon receipt of application of owners
10 for inclusion of land as a part of the auxiliary state forests,
11 the assessors shall notify the owner within thirty days of
12 the acceptance or rejection of said application; provided,
13 however, that no land shall be admitted as a part of the
14 auxiliary state forest under this act unless the primary pur-
15 pose shall be to produce timber for manufacture or sale.
16 If the assessors reject the application or fail to take action
17 within thirty days, the applicant may appeal to the forest
18 commission, who shall have an investigation made, and, if
19 in his judgment the land is capable of producing timber
20 as required by this section, shall grant such application,
21 otherwise he may reject it. The decision of the forest com-
22 missioner shall be final,' so that said section, as amended,
23 shall read as follows:

24 'Sect. 4. Auxiliary state forests shall include all areas
25 owned by corporations, firms, or individuals, now covered
26 by trees or which shall be planted to trees for use as fuel,
27 manufacture or sale, and which are capable of producing
28 at maturity fifteen thousand feet, board measure, of soft
29 wood, or eight thousand feet, board measure, of hardwood,

7 or their equivalent, per average acre, exclusive of ledges,
8 swamps, bogs, or ponds, the owner of which, shall in cities
9 and organized townships have filed with assessors and forest
10 commissioner, 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 the assessors shall notify the owner within thirty days of
16 the acceptance or rejection of said application; provided,
17 however, that no land shall be admitted as a part of the
18 auxiliary state forests under this act unless the primary
19 purpose shall be to produce timber for manufacture or sale.
20 If the assessors reject the application or fail to take action
21 within thirty days, the applicant may appeal to the forest
22 commissioner, who shall have an investigation made, and,
23 if in his judgment the land is capable of producing timber
24 as required by this section, shall grant such application,
25 otherwise he may reject. The decision of the forest com-
26 missioner shall be final.'

Sect. 3. Section nine of chapter seventy-eight of the public
2 laws as amended by chapter one hundred thirty-eight of the
3 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, however,
5 that such valuation shall not exceed two dollars per acre,
6 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 by
3 chapter one hundred thirty-eight of the public laws of nine-
4 teen hundred twenty-three, is hereby further amended by
5 striking out after the word "land" in the fourth line thereof
6 and inserting in place thereof the following: 'the payment
7 of the tax on the full value of trees thereon, together with
8 all expenses of administration incurred by the forest com-
9 missioner,' so that said section, as amended, shall read as
10 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.'