

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 528

H. P. 1503 House of Representatives, February 28, 1929.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Perham of Paris.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Barring Professional Sunday Sports and Allowing
Recreation that does not Disturb and Annoy the Nearby
Public.

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

Section thirty-five of chapter one hundred and twenty-six
2 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to permit (on the
3 now recognized calendar Sunday) any amateur recreation
4 for which no admission is charged for watching, no partici-
5 pant is paid for playing, nor rewards or prizes given, nor
6 any moneys collected to pay for use of field, park, play-
7 ground, or hall, or to act as a matter of profit to anyone
8 interested in the promotion of the afore-mentioned recrea-

9 tions, and that does not disturb and annoy the people in
10 the nearby vicinity.

No public competitive games of amateur recreation (such
2 as baseball, football, hockey, etc.) that are attended by a
3 group of spectators, there especially for that purpose, may
4 be played until after one o'clock on any calendar Sunday
5 and no admission shall be charged for watching, no partici-
6 pant shall be paid for playing, no rewards or prizes given,
7 and no moneys collected to pay for the use of the field, park,
8 playground, or hall, or to act as a matter of profit to any-
9 one interested in the promotion of the afore-mentioned
10 recreations.

Should any field, park, playground, or hall where such a
2 competitive game is played, becomes a source of disturb-
3 ance and annoyance on Sunday, the said field, park, play-
4 ground, or hall may be closed to the afore-mentioned com-
5 petitive game for the rest of the calendar year by means
6 of a petition to that effect signed by a majority of the legal
7 voters living within a radius of one thousand (1000) feet
8 from the center of the objectionable disturbance, and pre-
9 sented to the municipal officers of the town, city, or planta-
10 tion where-in caused. The said municipal officers shall be
11 sole judges as to what point constitutes the center of dis-
12 turbance and whether or not the petition is valid. The mu-
13 nicipal officers shall immediately approve every valid peti-
14 tion and take the necessary legal steps to fulfill the letter
15 of the law as requested in the petition. No penalty other

16 than the one mentioned in this paragraph shall be enforced
17 in such cases.

Recreation by any kind of travel (foot, horse, automobile,
2 etc.) ceases to be an act of breaking the law after the
3 enactment of this amendment.

People who are members of, or affiliated with, any reli-
2 gious sect believing that the Lord's Day is some other day
3 than the afore-mentioned calendar Sunday may carry on
4 and participate in any form of recreation wished on said
5 Sunday provided that such recreation does not disturb and
6 annoy the people in the nearby vicinity.

With the exception of the previously mentioned penalty
2 on public competitive games, and the conditions surround-
3 ing the conduct of people believing that the Lord's Day is
4 some other day than the calendar Sunday, the penalty for
5 disturbance, participating in or conducting recreational
6 games in non-conformance with the preceding provisions,
7 shall be a fine not exceeding ten dollars each for the first
8 offense and an additional five dollars shall be added to the
9 maximum fine for the second offense by the same person,
10 and so on for each succeeding offense.

The provisions of this amendment annul and supercede
2 all previous and now existing laws regarding the subject
3 of recreation and recreational games.