

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

EIGHTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 930

H. P. 1364 House of Representatives, March 20, 1931.

Reported by Mr. Wallingford from Committee on Agriculture and laid on Table to be printed under Joint Rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

New Draft of H. P. 1079, L. D. 655.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Relating to Damages by Dogs and Wild Animals.

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

Section 166, chapter 5 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto section 166A as follows:

'Whenever any poultry owned by a resident of this state is killed or injured by dogs, skunks, foxes, weasels, or wildcats, such owner may make complaint thereof to the mayor of the city or to one of the municipal officers of the town or plantation where such damage was done, within twenty-four hours after he has knowledge of the same, and thereupon the municipal officers shall investigate the complaint, and if satisfied that the said damage was committed by dogs or wild animals within the limit of their city, town or plantation, they shall estimate the damage thereof according to the actual value of such poultry, and make returns of their findings together with the estimated damage in triplicate, one copy to go to the town clerk, one to the commissioner of agriculture and one to the state auditor. If the poultry is kept in an unincorporated place, the owner may make complaint to the municipal officers of the nearest incorporated place, who shall investigate the complaint. The commissioner of agriculture or his duly authorized agent shall approve the bill, or if it seems

advisable, investigate and adjust the claim and such adjustment by the commissioner of agriculture or his duly authorized agent shall be final in all cases. When the claim is approved by the commissioner of agriculture or his duly authorized agent it shall be paid by the state to the person sustaining such damage and shall be a proper charge against the fund received by the state under section one hundred fifty-nine.

Any person who keeps a dog that kills or injures poultry shall be subject to the same penalty as provided in section one hundred sixty-six of this chapter.'