

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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E I G H T Y - S I X T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

NO. 329

H. P. 721

House of Representatives, Feb. 1, 1933.

Referred to Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Bussey of Dixmont.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to the Open Season On Beaver and Muskrat; Transportation and Sale of Beaver Prohibited.

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

R. S. c. 38, § 73, amended. Section 73 of chapter 38 of the revised statutes, as amended, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof :

'Sec. 73. Open season on beaver. The commissioner of inland fisheries and game may, upon written complaint of a water company, declare an open season upon beaver or muskrat that are polluting water supplies; or, on written complaint of a land owner, the commissioner may declare an open season upon beaver that are doing actual, substantial damage to property. During such open season it shall be lawful for any person holding a state-wide trapping license to trap beaver or muskrat without the consent of the land owner. Before said open season for beaver shall take effect, the commissioner shall cause a notice of such proposed open season to be published once in a newspaper printed in the county in which the land is located, and said commissioner shall also file a copy of said notice of open season with the clerk of the town or plantation in which said land is located. The commissioner may suspend said open season whenever it shall appear to him that the privileges are being abused. No person shall take beaver anywhere in the state at any time except during

such open season as may be declared by the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of this section. It shall also be unlawful for any person to have in possession at any time any beaver, or part thereof, taken in violation of any provision of this section. It shall also be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation, to sell, give away, buy, accept as a gift, offer for transportation or transport any beaver skin or beaver skins unless each skin is marked with an official seal by the chief game warden of the department of inland fisheries and game in whose district such beaver skin or beaver skins were taken. Any beaver skin or beaver skins that come into Maine in any manner from any other state or country must have the official stamp, tag or seal of the state or country from which said skin or skins were taken. Any beaver skin or skins that are transported into Maine, or are in Maine that are not marked, as above stated, must be presented to the chief inland fish and game warden within a reasonable time, in whose district the owner or possessor of said skin or skins resides to be stamped. The chief game warden after inspecting said skins may stamp the same as though they were taken in this state and the owner or possessor shall pay the sum of \$2.00 for each skin so stamped. All beaver skins shall be marked within 30 days from the closing of the open period whether they are for sale or not.'