

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 519

H. P. 1450

House of Representatives, February 16, 1937.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Davis of Brownville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Open Season on Fur-bearing Animals.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the fact that foxes have increased in the state of Maine to the extent that they cause a serious menace not only to the poultry interests of the state but also to game, especially the pheasants that are being bred and liberated by the department of inland fisheries and game; and

Whereas, considering the great loss to poultrymen, part of which, amounting to 13,861 birds valued at \$11,106.10, was paid for by the state during the fiscal year 1935-36; and

Whereas, a great many thousand chickens will be put on range during next May and June that will be seriously depleted by foxes; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature these facts create an emergency within the meaning of section 16 of Article XXXI of the constitution, and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

R. S., c. 38, § 72, amended. Section 72 of chapter 38 of the revised

statutes, as revised, is hereby amended so that the first paragraph of said section under (a) shall read as follows:

'(a) There shall be a perpetual closed season on hunting or trapping any fur-bearing animal except wild hares and rabbits (which are protected under the provision of section 71 of this chapter) bobcats, loup-cervier, Canada lynx, **foxes**; and whoever has in possession at any time any fur-bearing animal or part or parts thereof taken in closed season shall be subject to the penalties of this chapter. Except that there shall be an open season during which it shall be legal to hunt and trap fur-bearing animals in the respective counties as follows:'

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency recited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.