

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T I E T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 142

H. P. 355

House of Representatives, January 22, 1941.

Referred to Committee on State Lands and Forest Preservation and sent up for concurrence. 500 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Preble of Millinocket.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to the Slash Law.

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

R. S., c. 11, § 53, amended. Section 53 of chapter 11 of the revised statutes, as amended by chapter 12 of the public laws of 1931, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 53. Debris and inflammable material caused by cutting forest growth adjacent to lands owned by another shall be disposed of; slash and debris caused by portable sawmills shall be disposed of; permit to be obtained for the burning of blueberry lands and grass lands adjacent to forest growth. Any person, firm, corporation, or agent, cutting any forest growth on property adjacent to the right of way of any railroad or highway within the state, shall leave the growth uncut on the land within 50 feet of the limit of the right of way of a railroad or ~~center~~ **from the nearer side** of the wrought portion of any plantation, town, city, county, or state road; (or shall dispose of slash and debris caused by cutting in such a manner that inflammable material shall not remain on the ground within 50 feet of the limit of the right of way of a railroad or ~~center~~ **from the nearer side** of the wrought portion of any plantation, town, city, county,

or state road. Any person, firm, corporation, or agent cutting any forest growth on property adjacent to ~~woodlands~~ **lands** owned by another within the state outside the limits of the Maine forestry district and all such firms, persons, and corporations, who by themselves, their agents, servants, licensees, permittees, or lessees operate, or permit operation of portable sawmills on land which borders on ~~woodland~~ **land owned by another** shall dispose of slash and debris caused by cutting in such a manner that inflammable material shall not remain on the ground within 50 feet of the **property line of cutting on the side or sides towards such woodland.** Provided, however, that consent and direction in writing from the forestry department shall be required for the burning of such brush or slash or for the burning of blueberry land and grass land adjacent to any forest growth except when the ground is covered with snow. The forest commissioner shall cause to be furnished to all the chief forest fire wardens and to the municipal officers of all towns and organized plantations of the state, blank permits, signed by him, for the burning of brush or slash or for the burning of blueberry land and grass land adjacent to any forest growth. Any chief forest fire warden or the municipal officers of the town, in the county where the land is located, shall have full authority to countersign and grant such permits signed by the forest commissioner. The forest commissioner, may, however, in any particular case called to his attention, overrule the decision of the chief forest fire warden or the municipal officers, and himself grant the permit asked for or forbid the granting of the same. Whoever violates any of the provisions of this section shall on conviction thereof be punished by a fine of \$50.'