

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. 273

H. P. 637

House of Representatives, January 29, 1941.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary and 500 copies ordered printed.
Sent up for concurrence.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Brewer of Presque Isle.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-ONE

AN ACT to Provide Assistance to the Civil Population of England.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the civil population of England is now subjected to all the hazards of war, and

Whereas, an aggressor nation has threatened and is threatening an invasion of the territory occupied by said civil population, and

Whereas, the said civil population has indicated its intention to resist such threatened invasion, and is in need of arms and ammunition with which to make such resistance, and

Whereas, it appears that a successful invasion of said territory would constitute a menace to the public peace, health and safety of the people of the state of Maine, and

Whereas, certain small arms and certain ammunitions have been confiscated and are held by the state of Maine, in the department of inland fisheries and game, 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 of Maine, 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:

Sec. 1. Small arms and ammunition for civil population of England. The commissioner of inland fisheries and game for the state is hereby empowered and instructed to deliver, without charge, to "The American Committee for Defense of British Homes", in New York City, New York or to the duly accredited representative of said committee, all small arms and ammunition now held by said commissioner, or by the department of inland fisheries and game, or which shall hereafter be held or confiscated during the continuance of this act; said small arms and ammunition having been confiscated by this state, for violation of laws relating to the protection of inland fish and game.

Sec. 2. Amending clause. All laws and parts of laws in derogation hereof are superseded hereby for the term of this act as hereinafter limited.

Sec. 3. Effective existence of this act. This act shall terminate on December 31, 1942, unless prior thereto it shall be repealed by the legislature, or unless the governor and council shall, during a period in which the legislature is not in session, proclaim that the emergency set forth in the preamble of this act is ended and designate a date for its termination by proclamation of the governor.

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