

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

---

---

N I N E T Y - F I R S T      L E G I S L A T U R E

---

---

**Legislative Document**

**No. 797**

H. P. 1282

House of Representatives, March 17, 1943.

Reported by Mr. Day from Committee on Agriculture and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

---

---

**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-THREE

---

**AN ACT Relating to the Protection of Bees.**

---

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 43, amended.** Section 18 of chapter 43 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following sections enacted in place thereof:

‘Sec. 18. Bee inspectors. The commissioners of agriculture shall employ one or more persons qualified by experience and knowledge in bee-keeping as inspectors of apiaries, who shall serve during the pleasure of the commissioner.’

‘Sec. 18-A. Salary. Bee inspectors shall be employed on a per diem basis and shall receive not over \$6 per day and necessary traveling expenses while actually engaged in the performance of their duties.’

‘Sec. 18-B. Duties. Bee inspectors shall make such inspection of the apiaries throughout the state as the commissioner of agriculture may deem necessary to determine the presence therein of bee diseases of an infectious or contagious nature.’

‘Sec. 18-C. Right to enter apiaries. Such inspectors shall have the authority to enter at all reasonable times upon the premises of any keeper of bees and make such examination of the bees, equipment and appliances

found thereon as he may deem necessary to determine the presence of contagious or infectious diseases.'

'Sec. 18-D. Certificates. Any inspector may within 60 days after examination thereof issue certificates that bees or bee equipment and appliances are apparently free from disease or contamination.'

'Sec. 19-E. Certifying imports. No bees or used bee equipment or appliances shall be shipped into the state without a certificate signed by a legally authorized inspector at the point of shipment that they are free from contagious or infectious disease based on actual inspection made within 60 days of the date of such shipment.'

'Sec. 18-F. Public nuisance. All bees infected with the disease known as American Foulbrood, together with the equipment and appliances contaminated thereby, are declared to be a public nuisance, and may be abated as provided in section 12 of chapter 26 of the revised statutes.'

'Sec. 18-G. Possession or sale of diseased bees or equipment. It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly own or possess bees having any contagious or infectious disease, or bee equipment and appliances contaminated thereby, without a permit from a bee inspector. It shall be unlawful to sell, barter, or give away bees, equipment or appliances from any apiary which contains bees having an infectious or contagious disease without a permit from a bee inspector when the owner or manager thereof knows, or has reason to suspect, the presence of such disease therein.'

'Sec. 18-H. Penalty. Any person violating the provisions of sections 18 to 18-G, inclusive, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$10 and costs for each offense.'

'Sec. 18-I. Appropriation. There is hereby appropriated the sum of \$1,000 for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1944 and June 30, 1945 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 43, § 19, amended. Section 19 of chapter 43 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 19. Notification to commissioner of agriculture. All persons owning bees within the state shall notify the commissioner of agriculture of the keeping of bees and the location thereof. The information shall be made on blanks furnished by the commissioner of agriculture.'