

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# NINETY - SECOND    L E G I S L A T U R E

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 330**

S. P. 125

In Senate, February 1, 1945.

Referred to Committee on Agriculture. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Denny of Lincoln.

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## STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-FIVE

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### AN ACT Relating to Prevention of Bang's Disease by the Department of Agriculture.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 27, § 52, amended.** Section 52 of chapter 27 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows :

**'Sec. 52. Commissioner to investigate as to existence of diseases.** The commissioner shall cause investigation to be made as to the existence of tuberculosis, **Bang's disease**, pleuro-pneumonia, foot and mouth disease, glanders, hog-cholera, fowl pox, infectious laryngo, tracheitis, (infectious bronchitis) and other infectious and contagious diseases, among cattle, horses, sheep, swine, and poultry ; and he, or his duly constituted agent, may enter any premises or places, including stockyards, cars, and vessels, within any county or part of the state, in or at which he has reason to believe there exists any such disease, and make search, investigation, and inquiry in regard to the existence thereof.'

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 27, § 73, amended.** Section 73 of chapter 27 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows :

**'Sec. 73. Cattle to be tested for "Bang's disease."** ~~When any owner of cattle in the state shall signify in writing his willingness to place his~~

~~herd under the supervision of the department for~~ For the eradication of Bang's disease, the commissioner or his agent in charge of live stock sanitary work shall have blood from the animals **over 6 months of age in all herds in the state** drawn by a ~~competent~~ **regularly employed federal or state veterinarian or an authorized, accredited** veterinarian and tested at the state laboratory by what is known as the blood agglutination test, and all animals showing a positive reaction to this test shall be identified by a "reactor" eartag or brand, or by both eartag and brand, and shall be slaughtered, **or quarantined and handled under direct supervision of the commissioner or his agent.** Animals showing a suspicious reaction to the blood agglutination test ~~may~~ **must** be held for 60 days and retested.'

**Sec. 3. R. S., c. 27, § 75, amended.** Section 75 of chapter 27 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof a new sentence to read as follows:

**'The provisions of this section shall apply to all vehicles which have transported any cattle known to be reactors to the test mentioned in section 73.'**

**Sec. 4. R. S., c. 27, § 76, repealed and replaced.** Section 76 of chapter 27 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and replaced to read as follows:

**'Sec. 76. Quarantine; penalty.** If it is shown by recognized tests that Bang's disease exists in a herd, the commissioner, or his duly appointed agent in charge of livestock sanitary work, may place such premises under quarantine by written notice, and no cattle shall be allowed to be removed from the herd while it is under such quarantine, except in accordance with the quarantine terms.

Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100, or by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.'