

NINETY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 867

H. P. 1538 House of Representatives, February 17, 1949. Referred to Committee on State Lands and Forest Preservation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Webber of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to the Appointment of Municipal Town Forest Fire Wardens.

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

R. S., c. 85, § 58, repealed and replaced. Section 58 of chapter 85 of the revised statutes, as repealed and replaced by chapter 362 of the public laws of 1945, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 58. Forest fire wardens; appointment; term; deputy forest fire wardens; fee.

The forest commissioner shall appoint a forest fire warden for a 3 year term in each organized town, city and plantation within the state outside the limits of the Maine forestry district for the prevention, control and extinguishment of forest fires. Such forest fire warden appointment shall be made with the approval of the municipal officers. A municipal officer, fire chief, fire ward or any citizen is eligible for appointment. All appointed forest fire wardens shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of their duties and a certificate thereof shall be returned to the office of the forest commissioner. Whoever has been notified of this appointment shall file with the forest commissioner his acceptance or rejection within 10 days. The appointed forest fire warden may appoint one or more deputy forest fire wardens subject to approval of the municipal officers. The forest commissioner shall have the authority, with local municipal approval, to remove from office any town forest fire warden who fails to perform his official duties and to fill any vacancy caused by death, resignation or transfer.

The state shall pay the appointed forest fire warden an annual fee of \$50. This payment shall be made contingent upon attendance at forest fire training schools, preparation of an annual forest fire plan for his town and such reports as the forest commissioner may require. This fee in no way limits payment to the warden from his town. His services for work on actual forest fires, also deputy forest fire warden's, shall be paid by the town and at a rate determined by the town.'

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of \$25,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1950 and the sum of \$25,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1951, to carry out the provisions of this act.