

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 588

H. P. 1033

House of Representatives, February 9, 1951.

Referred to the Committee on Taxation, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Finnegan of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-ONE

**AN ACT to Provide Forest Fire Prevention and Control in Unorganized
Areas Not in the Maine Forestry District.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves passed by the legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, all property taxes are assessed as of April 1; and

Whereas, it is necessary that such taxes be assessed promptly to provide funds for forest fire prevention and control within the unorganized territory outside the Maine Forestry District; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning 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:

'R. S., c. 14, § 74, amended. The 2nd paragraph of section 74 of chapter 14 of the revised statutes, as enacted by chapter 160 of the public laws of 1949, is hereby amended to read as follows:

'All areas not incorporated outside the Maine forestry district shall pay

a forest fire tax equal to that of the Maine forestry district; ~~except that for the years 1949 and 1950 such tax shall be 5 mills.~~ The valuation as determined by the board of equalization and set forth in the statement filed by it as provided by section 65 of chapter ~~11~~ shall be the basis for the computation and apportionment of the tax assessed. The sum of \$50 of the amount assessed for each area shall be accredited to the general forestry appropriation (forest fire control for organized towns) to allow the forest commissioner to employ a forest fire warden for prevention and the remainder accredited to the aid to towns appropriation for control and suppression of forest fires.'

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