

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1312

S. P. 548

In Senate, April 20, 1951.

Reported by Senator Crosby of Franklin from the Committee on Natural Resources and printed under Joint Rules No. 10.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-ONE

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**AN ACT Relating to Prospecting for Minerals and Metals.**

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

R. S., c. 36, §§ 12-14, additional. Chapter 36 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto 3 new sections to be numbered 12 to 14, inclusive, to read as follows:

‘Sec. 12. Authority to prospect. Any citizen of the state may enter upon state-owned land, including lands held in trust, when the trust is such as to be consistent with mineral developments, on receipt of a permit from the Maine mining bureau, and may enter upon all unfenced and unimproved land held in private ownership, on written receipt of permission from the owner thereof, for the purpose of prospecting for any valuable minerals and metals. Such written consent shall be recorded in the county where the discovery is made generally in the same form as deeds of real estate under seal and acknowledged and recorded. The said prospectors shall be liable in an action on the case for any and all damages caused to the property by the entry and prospecting.

Sec. 13. Procedure after discovery of a deposit. After 30 days from the effective date of sections 12 to 14, inclusive, and within 30 days after discovery of any deposits, the prospector shall give written notice thereof

to the Maine mining bureau, describing particularly the nature and situation of the deposit, and the date of discovery, and shall also record the discovery in the manner provided in section 5 for recording claims in the registry of deeds in the county where the discovery was made. After giving such notices and making the recording the prospector shall notify the owner of the land.

Sec. 14. Prospector to have vested interest. The discovery of a deposit, and the filing and recording and giving notice, as required by section 14, shall vest in the prospector, his heirs and assigns an interest in the deposits to the extent of 5%, unless otherwise agreed, of the net profits derived by any person, firm or corporation who shall mine the deposit.'