## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## NINETY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

## Legislative Document

No. 432

S. P. 180

In Senate, February 3, 1955 Referred to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game, sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Low of Knox.

## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relating to Rules and Regulations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Game.

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

R. S., c. 37, § 9, repealed and replaced. Section 9 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. q. Rules and regulations. Whenever any existing conditions adversely affect wild game or the fish in any part of the State, the Commissioner with the advice and approval of the Advisory Council shall make such regulations as may be advisable, in the manner hereinafter provided.

Petitions, stating the conditions affecting wild game or the fish and the regulations which are desired as a remedy, may be addressed to the Commissioner by a majority of the municipal officers or 25 citizens of the municipality in which the adverse condition exists; or, in case the adverse condition is in unorganized territory, by a majority of the county commissioners; or the Commissioner may petition the Advisory Council recommending remedial action. This petition shall be filed in the office of the Commissioner before the 1st day of April or the 1st day of November.

A hearing shall be held in the State Capitol by the Advisory Council. Notice of the hearing to be held and the time and place thereof shall be by publication, once a week for 2 successive weeks prior to the hearing, in a newspaper having state-wide circulation. The Advisory Council shall approve or disapprove the regulations recommended and they shall become effective either the 1st day of January or the 1st day of August. The regulations approved by the Advisory Council shall be published in a newspaper having state-wide circulation. The Commissioner shall file a certified copy of said regulations with the Secretary of State and with the clerk of the superior court of the county in which the adverse condition exists.

If an unusually large concentration of fishermen or hunters should occur in any part of the State, so that the supply of fish or wild game might be depleted, the Commissioner may declare an emergency and shall recommend remedial regulations, which shall receive the approval of the Advisory Council, and which will take effect when approved. These regulations shall be published in a newspaper having state-wide circulation and copies shall be filed with the Secretary of State and with the clerk of the superior court in the county indicated.

Whoever violates any provision of this section or any rule or regulation issued under the provisions of this chapter shall be punished as provided in section 139.