MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1007

H. P. 899 House of Representatives, February 24, 1955. Referred to Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Vallely of Sanford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relating to Crop and Orchard Damage by Deer.

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

- R. S., c. 37, § 94, sub-§§ I, II, amended. Subsections I and II of section 94 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes are hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 'I. Any person may take or kill deer, night or day, on land owned or occupied by him, where substantial damage is being done by deer to a fruit tree or a crop, including legumes, except grass; and he may authorize a member of his immediate family or a person regularly employed by him to take such deer. A person by whom, or under whose direction, such deer is wounded or killed shall immediately properly dress the carcass or carcasses and care for the meat, and shall, within 12 hours, report all the facts relative to such act, including the time and place of such wounding or killing, to a fish and game warden. Such report shall state the time and place of such wounding or killing. A person who kills such deer shall immediately properly dress the eareass or eareasses and eare for the meat. The fish and game warden shall immediately investigate the case and if he is satisfied that the deer was taken as herein provided, he shall give the person a certificate of his finding in the matter take possession of the carcass or carcasses for distribution to a State institution, or to State institutions, under the direction of the Commissioner. Such certificate shall entitle such person to the ownership of the carcass or carcasses.'
 - II. The cultivator of any orchard or growing crop, including legumes, except grass, or the owner, mortgagee or keeper of said crops or orchard may

kill deer or other protected wild animals, except beave or birds, night or day, doing damage as provided in subsection I. Said cultivator, owner, mortgagee or keeper shall within 12 hours make the report as provided in subsection I and shall dress the carcass or carcasses and care for the meat as provided in said subsection I. The fish and game warden shall immediately investigate the case and if he is satisfied that the deer was taken as herein provided, he shall give said cultivator, owner, mortgagee or keeper a certificate of his finding in the matter. Sadi certificate shall entitle said cultivator, owner, mortgagee or keeper to the ownership of the carcass or carcasses. The provisions of subsection I as to reporting, investigation and disposition of the carcass or carcasses shall also apply to this subsection.'