

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 1273

H. P. 1090

House of Representatives, March 10, 1955

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Needham of Orono.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relating to Licenses for Buyers and Sellers of Rabbits.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 32, §§ 255-C - 255-F, additional. Chapter 32 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto four new sections to be numbered 255-C to 255-F, inclusive, to read as follows:

‘Rabbits.

Sec. 255-C. License. Any person, firm or corporation engaged in the buying or selling of rabbits, the meat or product of which is to be sold or used for food, except such person, firm or corporation that raises rabbits by himself or itself or his or its agents, shall annually apply for a license to the Commissioner of Agriculture, who may make suitable rules and regulations governing such licenses. The fee for such licenses shall be fixed by the Commissioner, but shall not exceed the sum of \$5, and such license shall be issued for a period of one year and may be revoked for cause. If, in the judgment of the Commissioner, or his duly authorized agent, any provision of sections 255-C to 255-E, inclusive, or any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder, appears to have been violated by any licensee, the Commissioner, or his duly authorized agent, shall send a notice by registered mail to the licensee giving reasonable notice of a hearing to be held at such time and place as the Commissioner, or his duly authorized agent, may designate. If the Commissioner, or his duly authorized agent, is satisfied that the licensee has violated any of the provisions of sections 255-C to 255-E, inclusive, or any of the rules and regulations, he shall revoke the license held by said licensee for a period of 2 years.

Sec. 255-D. Records. Any person, firm or corporation, their agents who purchase any rabbits for resale, which rabbits are to be sold as dressed rabbit meat to commercial outlets, either at wholesale or retail, shall keep a record of the transaction in duplicate on forms furnished by the Department. Such record shall include date, breed, quantity, and the name and motor vehicle number, if any, of the seller. One copy of said record shall be sent by mail, within 48 hours from date of purchase of the rabbits to the Chief of the State Police.

Sec. 255-E. Transportation. No person, firm or corporation, by himself or itself or his or its agents, shall transport rabbits from place to place within the State upon any way unless in possession of a license duly issued by the Commissioner, or his duly authorized agent. This section shall not apply to the transportation of dressed rabbits by merchants, the transportation of live or dressed rabbits by the actual producer, the transportation of dressed rabbits by householder for immediate consumption, the transportation by actual owner of live rabbits, not to exceed 20 for actual show purposes or for breeding purposes. This section shall apply to shippers in interstate commerce by common carrier or contract carrier under authority of the Public Utilities Commission or interstate carriers operating under authority of Interstate Commerce Commission; also, the buyer and seller of rabbits using any mode of transportation owned by himself or by others. Any person, firm or corporation by himself or itself or his or its agents transporting live or dressed rabbits, except as previously stated in this section, shall apply for license to the Commissioner, or his duly authorized agent, upon a form to be prescribed by said Commissioner, or his duly authorized agent. The fee shall be fixed by the Commissioner, such license to be issued annually. The fee shall not exceed \$2 and may be revoked for cause.

Sec. 255-F. Penalty. Whoever violates any of the provisions of sections 255-C to 255-E, inclusive, shall lose his right to a license for a period of 2 years, and shall also be punished by a fine of not less than \$50, nor more than \$100, for each offense.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 37, § 106, amended. Section 106 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding a new paragraph at the end thereof to read as follows:

'The provisions of this section shall not apply to the provisions of sections 255-C to 255-E, inclusive, of chapter 32, which relate to licenses for buyers and sellers of rabbits.'