

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1274**

H. P. 1091

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.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-FIVE

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**AN ACT** Relating to **Commercial Slaughterhouse Requirements for Rabbits.**

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 32, § 254-A, additional.** Chapter 32 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 254-A, to read as follows:

**‘Sec. 254-A. Slaughterhouse requirements for rabbits. It shall be unlawful to operate and maintain any place or structure for the commercial slaughter of rabbits, which does not meet all requirements herein listed.**

**I. The place or structure must be composed of 3 attached rooms of adequate size. Walls separating rooms shall be of waterproof material or covering. The floors shall be of concrete. Proper drainage shall be maintained at floor level, screens must be used at both doors and windows for the full distance of each opening. All procedure shall be used to exclude vermin and flies.**

**II. One room or place of structure must be used exclusively for slaughter, having an adequate supply of fresh clean water. Killing block, if used, must be cleaned and kept covered after each day's use. Room shall be thoroughly cleaned after each use, flushing adequately with flowing water. All refuse or offal to be removal within 24 hours after use. Draining racks shall be placed at least 5 feet up from the floor, attached to wall of room, to be used to drain blood from animals at time of slaughter.**

**III. The adjoining room or place of structure used as package or cutting room shall be equipped with the following items:**

- A. Proper shelving, of water-resistant and rust-resistant top, supported from floor by braces at proper height to allow for sanitary cleaning from floor;
- B. At least 2 receptacles or sinks, attached to walls of room, supported at proper height for sanitary cleaning from floor level to be made from rust-resistant material;
- C. Adequate supply of clean water; cooling receptacle or sink must use ice and flow of water in the process;
- D. Racks at least 5 feet from floor for draining purposes, to be attached to wall or in steel racks equipped with wheels for moving;
- E. No person may be employed who has any communicable disease or is a carrier of such disease;
- F. No place or structure may be used for sleeping or meeting quarters;
- G. All clothes and equipment must be kept reasonably clean at all times.
- H. One room or place of structure shall be used as a room for retention of live animals before slaughter; such room shall be cleaned and sterilized after each use and no refuse of any nature to be stored in this room.

No part of this section shall be construed to void the right of a bona fide farmer to kill or have killed, rabbits, for his use or sale.

Whoever violates any provisions of this section shall be punished by a fine of \$25 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 section 254-A of chapter 32 which relates to slaughterhouse requirements for rabbits.'