

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. 1377

H. P. 1159

House of Representatives, March 23, 1955.

Referred to Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Elwell of Brooks.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relating to Hunting of Raccoons.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 37, § 113, sub-§ IV, amended. Subsection IV of section 113 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'IV. It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt skunks ~~and raccoons~~ at night, except that they may be hunted at night from October 15th to December 15th of each year under the following provisions: when accompanied by a dog and with the use of a kerosene light; ~~provided that an electric flashlight of not more than 3 cells may be used in addition to a kerosene light while locating in and taking from a tree any raccoon treed by a dog;~~ provided ~~further, however,~~ it shall be unlawful to use or have in possession any firearm except a 22 caliber pistol while hunting as hereby provided.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 37, § 113, sub-§ IV-A, additional. Section 113 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto, after subsection IV, a new subsection to be numbered IV-A, to read as follows:

'IV-A. It shall be lawful to trap raccoons at any time anywhere in the State, and it shall be lawful to hunt raccoons at any time anywhere in the State except during Sundays and in the nighttime.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 37, § 113, sub-§ VII, repealed. Subsection VII of section 113 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed, as follows:

'VII. It shall be lawful to hunt and kill raccoons on the islands of North Haven and Vinalhaven, in the county of Knox, at any time except on

Sunday and at night. Night shall be the period from $\frac{1}{2}$ hour after sunset until $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before sunrise of the following morning; except that it shall be lawful to hunt raccoons during the open season as provided in subsection IV.'

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 37, § 114, repealed. Section 114 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed, as follows:

'Sec. 114. Game laws on raccoons suspended. The commissioner is empowered to suspend the game laws in respect to raccoons in such restricted localities and for such periods of time as he finds it advisable to relieve excessive damage being done by them to sweet corn or other crops, provided further, that the commissioner is empowered to suspend section 98 for the purpose only of allowing dogs to be used in hunting and killing raccoons, providing the dogs are under the personal supervision of the owner or trainer at all times, for such periods of time as the commissioner finds it advisable.'