

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 1366

H. P. 966

House of Representatives, March 21, 1957.

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Sanborn of Baldwin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Forest Practices.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 36, §§ 17-A - 17-B, additional. Chapter 36 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto 2 new sections to be numbered 17-A and 17-B, to read as follows:

‘Forest Practices.

Sec. 17-A. Forest practices. To encourage the building up and maintaining of a level of timber growing stock adequate to meet the needs of the State for a dependable future supply of industrial wood is essential to the public welfare and security. The improving of more than 17 million acres of forest land would add to the economic strength and health of the State and bring increased public benefits from other values associated with forest cover.

The purpose of this section and section 17-B is to set up a means of:

- I. Prescribing certain rules of forest practice to be observed in harvesting timber;
- II. Set up the procedures to follow in formulating a state forest land policy based upon forest harvesting practices; and
- III. General provisions that should be considered in such a program.

Sec. 17-B. Committee. A 7 man committee shall be appointed by the Governor, representing the 3 major forest industries, white pine lumber, pulp and paper and wood-turning; the University of Maine Forestry School; and 3 public mem-

bers interested in forest practices. The committee members shall be paid expenses, but no salary, incurred in carrying out their duties. In conjunction with the Forest Commissioner they may employ needed personnel and shall present to the 1959 Legislature a bill including the following:

I. Regulation and enforcement.

A. A proposed permit system to be required for the cutting of any merchantable timber for both landowner and operator from the Forest Commissioner, and a bond or cash deposit to insure compliance.

B. To provide the Forest Commissioner with sufficient technically trained foresters to secure compliance.

II. Minimum forest practice standards for major forest land types: Pine forest type, spruce-fir forest type, hardwood type and mixed hardwood-softwood type shall be prepared after public hearings.'

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of \$10,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1958 to carry out the purposes of this act. This appropriation shall not lapse but shall remain a continuing carrying account until the purposes of this act have been accomplished.