

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES
OF THE
SEVENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
1907.

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of
June 28, 1820, February 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

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PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1907.

for that purpose and to whom paid, during the year next preceding, and shall pay said treasurers any unexpended balance of said sums in their hands.'

Section 2. This act shall take effect when approved.

Approved March 28, 1907.

Chapter 178.

An Act to amend Chapter four of the Revised Statutes, relating to better Protection of Sheep.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

Section 1. Revised statutes, chapter four, section forty-nine, is hereby amended by striking out the words "one dollar" in the eighth line of said section and substituting therefor the words 'two dollars,' so that said section as amended, shall read as follows:

Section 49,
chapter 4, R.
S., amended.

'Section 49. The mayor of each city and the municipal officers of towns and plantations shall annually within ten days from the first day of May issue a warrant to one or more police officers or constables directing them to proceed forthwith either to kill or cause to be killed all dogs within such city, town or plantation not licensed and collared or enclosed according to the provisions of this chapter, and to enter complaint against the owners or keepers thereof. Such officers shall receive from the city, town or plantation, two dollars for each dog so killed. All bills for such services shall be approved by the mayor of cities, and municipal officers of towns and plantations.'

Warrants to
be issued to
officers to
kill all
unlicensed
dogs.

Section 2. Revised statutes, chapter four, section sixty, is hereby amended by striking out all of said section after the word "city" in the fourteenth line thereof and adding the following: 'If any dog is found running at large or outside of the immediate control of its owner or keeper, whether said dog is dangerous or vicious or otherwise, complaint may be made, notice ordered and served, and a hearing had in the same manner as if said dog were believed to be dangerous or vicious and if upon hearing the court or trial justice, in the exercise of his discretion, believes that said dog for the reasons set forth in the complaint ought to be either killed, confined or removed beyond the limits of said town or city, he may issue his order accordingly, stating the time within which said order shall be carried into effect. Any such owner or keeper who neglects to comply with any order authorized under this section shall

Section 60,
chapter 4, R.
S., amended.

CHAP. 178

Written
complaint
may be
made of
dangerous
dogs at
large.

—dog may
be confined
or killed.

Payment of
damage done
by dogs or
wild animals
to domestic
animals.

—proviso.

Inconsistent
acts
repealed.

forfeit to the use of the city or town aforesaid not less than five nor more than fifteen dollars, to be recovered in an action on the case, so that said section as amended, shall read as follows:

‘Section 60. Whoever is so assaulted or finds a dog strolling outside of the premises or immediate care of its owner or keeper, may, within forty-eight hours thereafter, make written complaint before the municipal or police court having jurisdiction in the city or town where the owner or keeper resides, or in case there is no such court, before a trial justice in said town, that he really believes and has reason to believe that said dog is dangerous or vicious; whereupon said court or trial justice shall order said owner or keeper to appear and answer to said complaint by serving said owner or keeper of said dog with a copy of said complaint and order a reasonable time before the day set for a hearing thereon; and if upon hearing, the court or trial justice is satisfied that said complaint is true, he shall order said owner or keeper within twenty-four hours thereafter either to kill or confine said dog or remove and keep the same beyond the limits of said town or city.

Whenever any sheep, lambs or other domestic animals owned by a resident of this state are killed or injured by dogs or wild animals, such owner may make complaint thereof to the mayor of the city or to one of the municipal officers of the town or plantation where such damage was done within seven days after he has knowledge of the same. And thereupon the municipal officers shall investigate such complaint, and if satisfied that such damage was committed by dogs or wild animals within the limits of their city, town or plantation, they shall estimate the amount thereof and in case said sheep or other animals are killed, that an amount equal to the value of the same and fifty per cent in excess thereof be paid to such owner from the town treasury, and in case any sheep, lambs or other animals are bitten or otherwise injured by dogs or wild animals an amount equal to the damage done which shall be estimated at not less than one-half the value of a sheep, shall be paid to such owner from the town treasury. Provided, however, that in case of sheep, lambs or other domestic animals injured by dogs or wild animals, the mayor of the city or the municipal officers of the town or plantation may take such sheep, lambs or other domestic animals at their appraised value.’

All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved March 28, 1907.