

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

Eighty-fifth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1931

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**PUBLIC LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

As Passed by the Eighty-fifth Legislature

**1931**

[supplied from page 1 of volume]

## Chapter 170.

### AN ACT Relating to Damages by Dogs and Wild Animals.

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

R. S., c. 5, sec. 166; relating to damages by dogs and wild animals, amended. Section one hundred and sixty-six of chapter five of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section 166A to read as follows:

**'Sec. 166A. Damages to poultry by dogs, or wild animals; procedure; penalty.** Whenever any poultry owned by a resident of this state is killed or injured by dogs, skunks, foxes, weasels, or wildcats, 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 twenty-four hours after he has knowledge of the same, and thereupon the municipal officers shall investigate the complaint, and if satisfied that the said damage was committed by dogs or wild animals within the limit of their city, town or plantation, they shall estimate the damage thereof according to the actual value of such poultry, and make returns of their findings together with the estimated damage in triplicate, one copy to go to the town clerk, one to the commissioner of agriculture and one to the state auditor. If the poultry is kept in an unincorporated place, the owner may make complaint to the municipal officers of the nearest incorporated place, who shall investigate the complaint. The commissioner of agriculture or his duly authorized agent shall approve the bill, or if it seems advisable, investigate and adjust the claim and such adjustment by the commissioner of agriculture or his duly authorized agent shall be final in all cases. When the claim is approved by the commissioner of agriculture or his duly authorized agent it shall be paid by the state to the person sustaining such damage and shall be a proper charge against the fund received by the state under section one hundred fifty-nine.

Any person who keeps a dog that kills or injures poultry shall be subject to the same penalty as provided in section one hundred sixty-six of this chapter.'

Approved April 2, 1931.