

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

Ninety-seventh Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Ninety-seventh Legislature

1955

Chapter 106

AN ACT Relating to Tuberculosis Tests for Cattle.

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

R. S., c. 32, § 138, amended. Section 138 of chapter 32 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 138. Records; health certificates; sanitation of trucks and premises. Licensed livestock dealers shall keep records of transactions of cattle over 6 months of age by eartag number, or if not eartagged, by description; or by both eartag and description. They shall furnish a health certificate on all bulls and female cattle over 6 months of age sold to any person in the State except to recognized slaughtering establishments for immediate slaughter or to another licensed dealer.

Licensed dealers selling cattle over 6 months of age except as provided above shall furnish the purchaser with a health certificate showing the date of the last known test for Bang's disease and tuberculosis. If the last Bang's disease test was made over 30 days previously, he shall cause the cattle to be retested. ~~If the last tuberculosis test is unknown or was made before 3 years previous to the time of the transaction, he shall cause the cattle to be retested by an accredited veterinarian.~~ The form of health certificate and the issuance of the same shall be at the direction of the Commissioner or his duly authorized agent.

A licensed dealer shall at all times keep his motor vehicles or trucks and premises in a sanitary condition. No cattle known to be affected with tuberculosis or Bang's disease shall be transported in any vehicle with other cattle except those going directly for slaughter.

All motor vehicles, trucks or other conveyances used to transport known reactors to tuberculosis and Bang's disease shall be cleaned and disinfected before being used for the transportation of any other livestock.'

Effective August 20, 1955

Chapter 107

AN ACT Clarifying Laws on Slaughterhouses and Meat Processing Plants.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 32, § 248, amended. The 1st paragraph of section 248 of chapter 32 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following paragraph enacted in place thereof:

'No person, firm, partnership, corporation, association or society shall operate a slaughterhouse or meat processing plant within the State of Maine unless such person, firm, partnership, corporation, association or society be licensed by the Commissioner of Agriculture. A license shall not be required of any farmer or other person who raises and slaughters his own domestic animals on his farm or premises for consumption or sale as human food, this being incidental to his general livelihood, nor of any retail sales establishment; nor the home kitchen operated only by the owner and his immediate family. An application for a li-

cense, or renewal of license, shall be made each year upon a form prescribed by the Commissioner. Such license shall commence upon the 1st day of August. With the application, there shall be paid to the Commissioner a license fee of \$5. Upon receipt of the application for a license, or renewal of same, the Commissioner shall issue a license after being satisfied that the applicant has complied with section 251 and the regulations promulgated thereunder. Each such license shall cover a group of buildings or parts thereof, in one location, constituting a slaughterhouse, meat processing plant, or both; operated by the licensee. Said license shall run for 1 year from the 1st day of August in each year, or unless sooner revoked as provided in section 249.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 32, § 250, repealed and replaced. Section 250 of chapter 32 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 250. Definitions. The term "slaughterhouse" shall mean any establishment wherein animals or poultry are slaughtered for human consumption.

The term "slaughter" shall mean the butchering of animals or poultry for human consumption.

The term "meat processing plant" shall mean any place where meat or meat products are prepared, processed, manufactured, packaged or frozen, for human consumption.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 32, § 251, repealed and replaced. Section 251 of chapter 32 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 251. Inspection; rules. The floors, walls, ceilings, partitions, posts, doors, equipment and other parts of all licensed slaughterhouses or meat processing plants shall be of such materials, construction and finish as will make them susceptible of being readily and thoroughly cleaned. Said establishments shall, at all times, be maintained and operated in a sanitary manner and in compliance with the Maine Food Law. Meat or meat products shall be prepared, processed, handled, packaged and transported in such a manner as to protect them from rapid decomposition, adulteration or contamination. The Commissioner shall promulgate regulations for carrying out the provisions of sections 248 to 254, inclusive, fix standards of quality and identity for meat and meat products, and by adequate inspection, enforce the provisions of sections 248 to 254, inclusive.'

Effective August 20, 1955

Chapter 108

AN ACT Relating to Meridian Lines and Standards of Length in Kennebec County.

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

R. S., c. 89, § 94-A, additional. Chapter 89 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section, to be numbered 94-A, to read as follows: