

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE - HUNDRETH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 364

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H. P. 250

House of Representatives, January 17, 1961

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Hendircks of Portland.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-ONE

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**AN ACT Relating to Qualifications of Licensed Private Detectives.**

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

**R. S., c. 144, § 14, amended.** Section 14 of chapter 144 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows :

**'Sec. 14. Detectives, license; bond; unlawful to advertise as state detective; fee.** The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, may license not exceeding 50 detectives for the detection, prevention and punishment of crime, to serve for the term of 4 years, unless such license is sooner revoked for cause. Each person so licensed before receiving his commission shall give bond in the sum of ~~\$500~~ \$1,000. Such bond shall be executed by a surety company authorized to do business within the State and shall be on a form approved by the Insurance Commissioner and shall be filed with the State Auditor. Such bond shall be conditioned for the proper discharge of the services which he may perform by virtue of such license; but nothing herein contained shall be construed to confer on any person so licensed, any of the power and authority of sheriffs or police officers, except in cases of felony and offenses under ~~the provisions of chapter 132, section 17 of chapter 135~~ chapter 135, section 17 and ~~the first 13 sections of chapter 139~~ chapter 139, sections 1 to 13. No person so licensed shall advertise or represent himself as a state detective under penalty of the forfeiture of his license and a fine of not more than \$20, to be recovered upon complaint. Every person licensed as a private detective shall, before receiving his license, pay to the Secretary of State \$10.

**Any person wishing to become licensed as a private detective shall be at least 21 and not over 60 years of age, with not less than 2 years satisfactory experience**

in law enforcement work in a bona fide law enforcement agency, a citizen of the United States, be of good moral character and of fitness to act as a licensed detective, and must satisfactorily pass a comprehensive personal investigation made by such persons or agencies as shall be designated for that purpose by the Governor. Each person so licensed, before receiving his commission, shall furnish to the Governor recommendations as to his competence and fitness from at least 3 persons actively serving in any of the following positions: County sheriff or chief deputy, judge or associate judge of the superior or municipal courts, county attorney, or any officer, agent or investigator in charge of any county, state or federal law enforcement agency. Each person holding a detective license must maintain an office or place of business for the purpose of conducting his detective business, and the license must be conspicuously displayed in such office or place of business. The office or place of business must contain a business telephone, the number of which is listed in the telephone directory for the area in which the office or place of business is located, in the licensee's name, or name under which the business is being conducted.'