

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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SENATE

NO. 239

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*In Senate, Feb. 27, 1917.*

*Referred to Committee on Judiciary and one thousand copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.*

*W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.*

*Presented by Mr. Stanley of Oxford.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN

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AN ACT to Provide for the Establishment of Polling Districts  
in Cities and Towns.

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

Section 1. The municipal officers of any city may by  
2 written order to be filed with and recorded by the city  
3 clerk sixty days at least before the first election to which  
4 said order shall apply, divide wards into convenient polling  
5 districts, which shall not contain less than three hundred  
6 voters in each. Such order shall define the limits of such  
7 polling districts and designate polling places for each. Im-

8 mediately upon recording such order the city clerk shall  
9 post copies thereof in not less than two public and con-  
10 spicuous places in each ward affected thereby and the same  
11 shall be published in one or more of the newspapers if any  
12 published in said city, such publication to be within ten  
13 days after the recording of the order. Such order shall  
14 continue in force until altered or repealed by a subsequent  
15 order to be recorded, posted and published in like manner.  
16 The municipal officers shall also, ten days before any elec-  
17 tion appoint a warden and ward clerk for each polling place  
18 other than the one in which the wardens duly elected for  
19 such wards shall preside, who shall perform the same duties  
20 at elections as wardens and ward clerks perform. Any  
21 vacancy occurring after appointment may be filled by the  
22 voters of said polling district as similar vacancies in wards  
23 are filled. All such officers shall be sworn. The board of  
24 registration of voters for any city in which a ward has  
25 been so divided shall in the manner provided for by law,  
26 prepare check lists of the qualified voters for each of said  
27 polling districts in lieu of the check lists now provided by  
28 law for the entire ward, to be used as provided by law  
29 and all provisions of law applicable to check lists for wards  
30 shall apply to check lists for such polling districts.

Sect. 2. The municipal officers of any town may by writ-  
2 ten order to be filed with and recorded by the town clerk  
3 sixty days at least before the first election to which said  
4 order shall apply, divide the town into two or more polling  
5 districts which shall contain not less than

6 voters each. Such order shall define the limits of such  
7 polling districts and designate polling places for each. Im-  
8 mediately upon recording such order the town clerk shall  
9 post copies thereof in not less than two public and con-  
10 spicuous places in each such district. Such order shall con-  
11 tinue in force and apply to all except municipal elections  
12 until altered or repealed by a subsequent order to be re-  
13 corded and posted in like manner. Municipal officers shall  
14 at least ten days before any election appoint a presiding  
15 officer, who may be one of their number, and a clerk, for  
16 each such district other than the one voting at the place  
17 where town meetings are held, in which district the election  
18 shall be conducted by the appropriate town officers as though  
19 no other districts existed; in other districts the district  
20 officers appointed as above provided shall perform the duties  
21 otherwise devolving upon the corresponding town officers  
22 and election returns made up by them shall immediately  
23 be delivered to the town clerk together with all ballots in  
24 their possession. The municipal officers of any town which  
25 has been so divided shall in the manner provided for by  
26 law prepare check lists of the qualified voters for each of  
27 said polling districts in lieu of the check lists now pro-  
28 vided by law for the entire town to be used as provided  
29 by law and all provisions of law applicable to check lists  
30 for towns shall apply to check lists for such polling dis-  
31 tricts.

Sect. 3. Section twelve of chapter seven of the Revised  
2 Statutes is hereby repealed.

Sect. 4. This act shall take effect whenever by reason of  
2 any amendment to section sixteen of article nine of the  
3 constitution it shall become consistent therewith.