

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 119

In Senate, Feb. 26, 1919.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

P. F. CRANE, Secretary.

Presented by Mr. Deering of York.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Defining Prostitution, Lewdness and Assignment
and Providing Punishments Therefor.

Whereas, owing to the necessity of preserving the public health in general, the enactment of more stringent laws prohibiting prostitution, lewdness and assignation, and providing punishments therefor is an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety,

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

Section 1. That from and after the passage of this act
2 it shall be unlawful :

(a) To occupy any place, structure, building or convey-

2 ance for the purpose of prostitution, lewdness or assigna-
3 tion or for any person to permit any place, structure, build-
4 ing or conveyance owned by him or under his control to
5 be used for the purpose of prostitution, lewdness or assigna-
6 tion with knowledge or reasonable cause to know that the
7 same is, or is to be, used for such purpose ;

(b) To receive or to offer or agree to receive any person
2 into any place, structure, building or conveyance for the
3 purpose of prostitution, lewdness or assignation, or to per-
4 mit any person to remain there for such purpose ;

(c) To direct, take or transport or to offer or agree to
2 take or transport, any person to any place, structure or
3 building, or to any other person with knowledge or reason-
4 able cause to know that the purpose of such directing,
5 taking or transporting is prostitution, lewdness or assigna-
6 tion ;

(d) To procure or solicit or to offer to procure or solicit,
2 for the purpose of prostitution, lewdness or assignation ;

(e) To reside in, enter or remain in any place, structure
2 or building, or to enter or remain in any conveyance for
3 the purpose of prostitution, lewdness or assignation ;

(f) To engage in prostitution, lewdness or assignation
2 or to aid or abet prostitution, lewdness or assignation by
3 any means whatsoever.

Sect. 2. That the term "prostitution" shall be construed
2 to include the offering or receiving of the body for sexual
3 intercourse for hire, and, shall also be construed to include

4 the offering or receiving of the body for indiscriminate
5 sexual intercourse without hire. That the term "lewdness"
6 shall be construed to include any indecent or obscene act.
7 That the term "assignation" shall be construed to include
8 the making of any appointment or engagement for pros-
9 titution or lewdness or any act in furtherance of such ap-
10 pointment or engagement.

Sect. 3. That in the trial of any person charged with a
2 violation of any of the provisions of section one of this
3 act, the record of a prior conviction or testimony concern-
4 ing the reputation, of any place, structure or building, and
5 of the person or persons who reside in or frequent the
6 same and of the defendant shall be admissible in evidence
7 in support of the charge.

Sect. 4. (a) That any person who violates any of the
2 provisions of this act shall be subject to imprisonment in,
3 or commitment to, any penal or reformatory institution in
4 this state for not more than three years;

(b) That probation or parole shall be granted or ordered
2 in the case of a person infected with venereal disease only
3 on such terms and conditions as shall insure medical treat-
4 ment therefor and prevent the spread thereof, and the court
5 may order any convicted defendant to be examined for
6 venereal disease.

(c) That no girl or woman who shall be convicted under
2 this act shall be placed on probation or on parole in the

3 care or charge of any person except a woman probation
4 officer.

Sect. 5. That the declaration by the courts of any of the
2 provisions of this act as being in violation of the constitu-
3 tion of this state shall not invalidate the remaining pro-
4 visions.

Sect. 6. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith
2 are hereby repealed.

In view of the emergency cited in the preamble this act
2 shall take effect when approved.