

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

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SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

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SENATE

NO. 189

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In Senate, March 10, 1919.

Reported by Mr. Davies from Committee on Judiciary and  
laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

P. F. CRANE, Secretary.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT to Regulate the Employment of Legislative Counsel  
or Agents and to Provide a Legislative Docket in Secretary  
of State's Office Open to Public Inspection, Disclosing  
Information in Relation to Such Employment.

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

Section 1. Any person or persons accepting employment  
2 to act as legislative counsel or agent to promote or oppose,  
3 directly or indirectly, legislation by the legislature shall  
4 within forty-eight hours after such employment cause his  
5 or their name or names to be entered upon a docket as  
6 hereinafter provided and all employers of such legislative  
7 counsel or agents shall also within the same time cause

8 their names to be entered upon the same docket as here-  
9 inafter provided.

Sect. 2. The secretary of state shall prepare and keep  
2 a docket for the registration of legislative counsel or agents  
3 and of their employers, which docket shall be open to  
4 public inspection during the office hours of said secretary  
5 of state and shall contain the names of legislative counsel  
6 and agents and of their employers, the addresses of each,  
7 the date and subject matter of the employment, and, by  
8 appropriate words, a designation of whether such employ-  
9 ment is as counsel or agent or both. Such docket shall  
10 be so arranged and indexed that under the name of each  
11 employer shall appear the names of all legislative counsel  
12 or agents employed by him and that the name or names  
13 of each employer represented by any counsel or agent shall  
14 appear under the name of such counsel or agent.

Sect. 3. No person shall be employed as a legislative  
2 counsel or agent for compensation dependent upon a con-  
3 tingency.

Sect. 4. Whoever violates any provision of this act shall  
2 be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars  
3 nor more than five hundred dollars, and the attorney gen-  
4 eral shall cause prosecutions to be instituted for the vio-  
5 lation of any of the provisions of this act.

Sect. 5. The term "legislative counsel" as used in this  
2 act shall be construed to mean any person who for com-  
3 pensation appears at any public hearing before committees

4 of the legislature in regard to proposed legislation. The  
5 term "legislative agent" as used in this act shall be con-  
6 strued to mean any person, firm, association or corpora-  
7 tion that for hire or reward does any act to promote or  
8 oppose proposed legislation except to appear at public  
9 hearings before committees of the legislature, and shall  
10 include all persons who for compensation shall approach  
11 individual members of the legislature or members elect  
12 thereof with the intent in any manner, directly or indi-  
13 rectly, to influence their action upon proposed legislation.

Sect. 6. The provisions of this act shall not apply to state,  
2 county, municipal or quasi-municipal officials, or their reg-  
3 ularly elected or appointed subordinates, who act for no  
4 compensation other than their ordinary salary or compen-  
5 sation as such public officials or subordinates.

Sect. 7. Any person, firm or corporation, who shall falsely  
2 enter upon the docket aforesaid the name or names of any  
3 person or firm as his or their legislative counsel or agent,  
4 shall be liable to a penalty of one hundred dollars and  
5 answerable in damages to the person or firm whose name  
6 or names has been so falsely entered.