

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - F I F T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 1160

H. P. 1588

House of Representatives, March 7, 1951

Referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Dorsey of Fort Fairfield.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-ONE

**AN ACT Amending the Charter of the Town of Fort Fairfield Relating to
the Number of Councillors.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the annual town meeting of the town of Fort Fairfield is held on the 3rd Monday in March; and

Whereas, if this act is not passed as an emergency it will not become effective in time for said annual town meeting; and

Whereas, it is very desirable that this amendment to the charter be acted upon at the annual town meeting in March, 1951; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the constitution and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

P. & S. S., 1943, c. 5, § 2, repealed and replaced. Section 2 of chapter 5 of the private and special laws of 1943 is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

‘Sec. 2. Election of officers. At such annual town meetings, the voters shall elect by ballot, as hereinafter provided, persons who are qualified to vote in said town to be known as councillors, a member or members of the

library trustees for a term of 5 years, a member or members of the superintending school committee in accordance with the revised statutes of 1944 and amendments thereto, and a town clerk.

Said councillors shall be 5 in number and shall be elected as follows:

I. The 3 councillors elected on or before March 19, 1951, shall continue in office until the expiration of their respective terms.

II. At the 1st annual town meeting to be held after March 19, 1951, 2 councillors shall be elected for a term of 3 years, 1 councillor for a term of 2 years, and thereafter the annual vacancies in the office of town councillor caused by the expiration of terms shall be filled for terms of 3 years. Vacancies that occur in the office of town councillor due to death, resignation or other causes shall be filled for the unexpired term at the next annual town meeting or at a special town meeting called for that purpose.'

Emergency clause; effective date; referendum. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble hereof, this act shall take effect when approved, only for the purpose of permitting its submission to the legal voters of the town of Fort Fairfield at the annual town meeting to be held on March 19, 1951. The town clerk shall prepare the required ballots, upon which she shall reduce the subject matter of this act to the following question: "Shall the Act to Amend the Charter By Increasing the Number of Town Councillors to Five Be Accepted?" and the voters shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed over the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same. This act shall take effect for all the purposes hereof immediately upon its acceptance by a majority of the legal voters voting at said annual town meeting. The result of the vote in said town shall be declared by the municipal officers of the town of Fort Fairfield and due certificate thereof filed by the town clerk with the secretary of state.