

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

# ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

## SIXTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1891.

---

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,  
February 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

---

AUGUSTA:  
BURLEIGH & FLYNT, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.  
1891.

---

---

PUBLIC LAWS  
OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE.

1891.

---

---

**Chapter 116.**

An Act relating to the salary of the chairman of the Railroad Commissioners and the clerk of the board.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:*

Commencing with January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, the salary of the chairman of the board of railroad commissioners, shall be twenty-five hundred dollars per annum, and that of the clerk shall be fifteen hundred dollars per annum.

Salary of chairman and clerk, increased.

Approved March 28, 1891.

**Chapter 117.**

An Act additional to that part of chapter twenty-two of the Revised Statutes, relating to Dikes and Dams.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:*

SECT. 1. In addition to the provisions of law for repairing dikes and dams, as now provided in the forty-third and the eighteen following sections of the twenty-second chapter of the revised statutes, the proprietors of any meadow, swamp, marsh, beach or other low lands, after the completion of the dams, dikes, and removal of obstructions as provided in said twenty-second chapter, may hold regular meetings when they adjudge proper, make such rules for the maintenance and preservation of such dikes and dams as their common interest require.

Ch. 22, R. S., amended.

—owners may hold meetings, and make rules for maintenance of dikes.

SECT. 2. Upon written application of any three or more of said proprietors to any justice of the peace, he shall issue his warrant to one of the applicants requiring him to call a meeting of the proprietors, expressing in said warrant the time, place and purposes thereof.

Meetings, how called.

SECT. 3. Notice of said meeting shall be served at least fourteen days previous to the time appointed therefor, when all the proprietors reside in the town where the land lies, by reading the warrant to each proprietor, or giving him a copy in hand, or by leaving a copy at his usual place of abode; and in case one or more of the proprietors reside without the town or plantation, notice of such meeting shall be given

Notice of meetings, how given.

## CHAP. 117

them by publishing a copy of such warrant in some newspaper printed in the county, or in the state paper three weeks successively, the last publication to be at least fourteen days before the time appointed for said meeting.

Votes each proprietor may have.

SECT. 4. At such meeting and all other meetings of said proprietors, each shall have one vote for every acre owned by him and one vote for a fraction of an acre greater than one-half. Absent proprietors may vote by written proxy.

Officers, election and qualification.

SECT. 5. At such meeting said proprietors may by vote elect a clerk, three or five assessors, a collector and such other officers and committees as may be deemed needful, and may adopt such needful by-laws and standing regulations as are not inconsistent with law; and may determine the manner of calling and notifying future meetings. The clerk, assessors and collector shall each be sworn. The clerk may be sworn by the moderator presiding at the meeting of his election. Officers, elected at the annual or other meetings shall continue in office until others are chosen and qualified in their stead.

Record of proprietors, and number of acres land owned by each.

SECT. 6. At or immediately after the first meeting the clerk shall enter in a suitable book, the names of the several proprietors and the number of acres owned by each, and the subsequent transfer of interest shall also be entered by him, within three months after it is made, if known to him.

Committee may be chosen to ascertain what repairs are needed, etc.

SECT. 7. At any meeting called for the purpose, a committee of not less than three may be chosen to investigate the condition of such dikes and dams, to ascertain what repairs are needful, and report at an adjourned meeting, at which meeting the same or any other committee chosen therefor may be authorized to make needful repairs, and report the expense thereof at an adjourned or other meeting.

Proprietors may raise money and assess same.

SECT. 8. At any meeting called for that purpose, said proprietors may raise money for defraying common charges and for the payment of cost and expenses of such repairs as may have been incurred under the preceding section, which shall be assessed upon the proprietors by the assessors in proportion to their several interests, and which they shall commit to the collector for collection by an appropriate warrant for its collection, directing him to pay it over to the clerk or other proper officer designated by vote of the proprietors, and the collector shall have the same power and shall collect the same as collectors of towns are authorized to collect town taxes.

SECT. 9. If any proprietor declines to cultivate, use or take profit from his portion of such lands, and gives written notice of his intention so to do, to the clerk of the proprietors he shall not be regarded as liable to pay any tax or assessment on account of his portion thereof, while he neglects to cultivate, use and take profit therefrom, nor shall he be entitled to vote at the meetings of said proprietors.

Proprietor, declining to use land, shall be exempt from payment of taxes.

SECT. 10. A two-thirds part in interest of the proprietors entitled to vote at any legal meeting called for that purpose, may discontinue their association, but not to take effect until six months after the vote for that purpose.

Two-thirds of proprietors, by vote may discontinue association.

Approved March 23, 1891.

### Chapter 118.

An Act to provide for the Registration of Vital Statistics.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :*

SECT. 1. The secretary of the state board of health shall be the registrar of vital statistics for the state, and shall furnish to clergymen, and others authorized to marry, to sextons, to physicians, town clerks, clerks of the society of Friends, and to clerks of courts, a copy of this act, and suitable blanks for recording births, marriages, deaths and divorces, so printed, with appropriate headings, as readily to show the following facts and such others as may be deemed necessary to secure an accurate registration.

Registrar of vital statistics, provided for, and required to furnish blanks for record births, marriages, deaths and divorces.

I. The record of a birth shall state its date and place of occurrence, full christian and surname, if named, color and sex of child, whether living or still-born, and the full christian and surnames, color, occupation, residence and birthplace of parents.

—what record of birth shall state.

II. The record of a marriage shall state its date and place of occurrence, the name, residence, and official character of the person by whom solemnized, the full christian and surnames of the parties, the age, color, occupation, and residence of each, the condition, whether single or widowed, whether first, second or other marriage; and the full christian and surnames, residence, color, occupation, and birthplace of their parents.

—what record of marriage shall state.