

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Acts and Resolves

As Passed by the

Seventy-Eighth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1917

Including Acts and Resolves of the Special Session of the
Seventy-Seventh Legislature held in 1916.

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Seventy-Eighth Legislature

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wife; how long a resident of the city, and where his last vote was cast, which answers shall be reduced to writing on blanks furnished for that purpose by the city clerk, and signed by the voter, whose signature shall be witnessed by two election officers representing two different parties. The warden shall promptly return all such records to the city clerk who shall keep them on file for public inspection for one year. Any failure to comply with the provisions of this section shall be a misdemeanor and be punishable as provided in section twenty-nine of this chapter.'

Approved March 23, 1917.

Chapter 69.

An Act to Amend Section Nineteen of Chapter Five of the Revised Statutes, Relating to the Sessions of the Boards of Registration in Cities with over Thirty-five Thousand Inhabitants.

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

R. S., c. 5, § 19, relating to procedure of boards of registration, amended. Section nineteen of chapter five of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding after the first sentence thereof, 'and in cities of not less than thirty-five thousand inhabitants said board shall be in session the sixty secular days prior to any state or municipal election; on the first twenty of said days said boards shall be in session from nine o'clock in the forenoon to one o'clock in the afternoon, and from three o'clock to five o'clock in the afternoon, and on the next ten secular days the said boards shall be in session from nine o'clock in the forenoon to one o'clock in the afternoon and from three o'clock to five o'clock in the afternoon, and from seven to nine o'clock in the afternoon, to receive evidence and to determine the qualifications and rights of registration of voters therein, and to revise and correct the voting lists; and on the latter thirty of said sixty secular days said boards shall be in session to enable said boards to verify the correctness of the voting lists and to close up the records of said boards, and to hear and determine the right of any person, whose right has been challenged, to have his name added to or remain on said list or be stricken from the same. In cities of not less than thirty-five thousand inhabitants registration prior to any presidential election shall be held during the days and hours fixed by this section for the registration of voters for the municipal election next following,' so that said section when amended shall read as follows:

'Sec. 19. Procedure in cities of not less than 35,000. Date and hours of holding sessions. Said boards of registration shall be in session from nine in the forenoon to one o'clock in the afternoon, and from three to five o'clock in the afternoon, and from seven to nine o'clock in the afternoon, in cities of not less than nineteen thousand inhabitants, on each of the twelve secular days next prior to any election; on the first nine of said secular days, to receive evidence touching the qualifications of voters therein, and to revise and correct the voting lists, and on the latter three of said secular days, to enable the board to verify the correctness

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of said lists and to complete and close up its records of said sessions, and in cities of not less than thirty-five thousand inhabitants said board shall be in session the sixty secular days prior to any state or municipal election; on the first twenty of said days said board shall be in session from nine o'clock in the forenoon to one o'clock in the afternoon, and from three o'clock to five o'clock in the afternoon, and on the next ten secular days the said boards shall be in session from nine o'clock in the forenoon to one o'clock in the afternoon and from three o'clock to five o'clock in the afternoon, and from seven to nine o'clock in the afternoon, to receive evidence and to determine the qualifications and rights of registration of voters therein, and to revise and correct the voting lists; and on the latter thirty of said sixty secular days said boards shall be in session to enable said boards to verify the correctness of the voting lists and to close up the records of said boards, and to hear and determine the right of any person, whose right has been challenged, to have his name added to or remain on said list or be stricken from the same. In cities of not less than thirty-five thousand inhabitants registration prior to any presidential election shall be held during the days and hours fixed by this section for the registration of voters for the municipal election next following. And in all other cities, for the same purpose, and at the same hours on each of the five secular days next prior to any election, the first four thereof to be devoted to registration as above, and the last one of said secular days to enable the board to verify the correctness of said lists and to complete and close up its records of said sessions. And on the last of said secular days, at five o'clock in the afternoon, certified copies of said voting lists shall be delivered to the clerks of said cities and receipts taken therefor, except that on the last of said days devoted to registration and on the last of said days devoted to the records as above, the sessions of the board shall close at five o'clock in the afternoon, but no name shall be added to or stricken from said lists after five o'clock in the afternoon of the last of said days devoted to registration as above. Said board shall not place upon said lists during said revision of the same, the name of any person who shall not personally appear before said board and request it, and during said time said board shall revise and correct the voting lists. Nothing in this chapter shall be so construed as to require any voter, whose name is already upon any ward list and who afterwards moves from said ward to any other ward in said city, to appear personally before said board during the revision of the list in order to transfer his name from one ward list to another. The wardens of cities shall be governed by said revised and corrected lists; and no names shall be added to or stricken from said lists on the day of election, and no person shall vote at any election whose name is not on said lists. No board of registration shall be answerable for any omission of a name or residence from the voting lists or for any error in the same, unless such name and residence are correctly entered in the general register of voters; but on the day of election said board shall be in session, and shall give to any registered voter whose name has been omitted from the voting list, or in whose name or residence as placed on said voting list a clerical error has been

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made, a certificate signed by a majority of the board, giving the corrected name and residence of such person, and directed to the officer presiding over the election; such officer shall on receipt of such certificate, allow the person therein named to vote and shall check his name on the certificate, and securely attach the certificate to the voting list.'

Approved March 23, 1917.

Chapter 70.

An Act to Amend Section Fourteen of Chapter Fifty-eight of the Revised Statutes, Relating to the Extension of Charters of Street Railroads.

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

R. S., c. 58, § 14, relating to authority of public utilities commission to extend or revive charter of street railroads, amended. Section fourteen of chapter fifty-eight of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the words, "a period not exceeding three years," in the second and third lines thereof, and inserting in place thereof the words, 'successive periods of not exceeding three years each,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sec. 14. Time limit increased to successive periods of three years each. The public utilities commission may extend the corporate existence and powers of such corporation for successive periods of not exceeding three years each, or may revive such corporate existence and powers for a like period after the same shall have ceased as provided in the preceding section. Said commission, if they deem it expedient, and if the same be prayed for, may include in such extension any rights or powers granted to such corporation by special law, and in such case all rights and powers of such corporation, whether existing under this chapter or under any special law, shall continue in full force for the period not exceeding three years determined by the commission; provided, however, that before decreeing such extension or revival, notice shall be given and hearing had as provided by section seven.'

Approved March 23, 1917.

Chapter 71.

An Act to Amend Section Seventy-four of Chapter Forty-five of the Revised Statutes, Relating to Fishing for Smelts in West Bay and West Bay Stream.

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

R. S., c. 45, § 74, relating to regulation of smelt fishing, amended Section seventy-four of chapter forty-five of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the words "nor to smelts taken in West Bay and West Bay stream, so-called, in the town of Gouldsboro, Hancock county," in the thirty-first and thirty-second lines of said section, so that said section as amended shall read as follows: