

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*Wm. F. Barry*  
DOCUMENTS

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# THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1856.

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PART SECOND.

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Augusta:

FULLER & FULLER, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1856.

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# THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE.

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SENATE.

No. 41.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED  
AND FIFTY-SIX.

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AN ACT additional concerning electors and elections.

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

SECTION 1. Whenever any person of foreign birth  
2 shall produce and exhibit to the aldermen, selectmen  
3 or assessors of the city, town or plantation in which  
4 he resides, his naturalization papers, issued to him  
5 from any court in the United States, and it shall ap-  
6 pear to said aldermen, selectmen or assessors, that  
7 said papers are in due form and were issued by a  
8 court having jurisdiction of such matters, and that  
9 such person is entitled to vote in such city, town or  
10 plantation, they shall approve such papers by endorse-

11 ment thereon, in writing, under the hand of one of  
12 their number, with the date of such approval; and  
13 shall also register in a book kept for that purpose,  
14 the name of such person, whose naturalization papers  
15 have been thus approved by them, with the date of  
16 the issue of said papers, the court by which the same  
17 were issued, and the date of such approval. Such  
18 aldermen, selectmen or assessors, shall also cause the  
19 name of such person whose papers shall have been  
20 by them approved as aforesaid, to be entered on the  
21 list of voters of such city, town or plantation. After  
22 such approval of the naturalization papers of any  
23 person, it shall be the duty of the aldermen, selectmen  
24 and assessors aforesaid, to continue the name of every  
25 such person upon the successive lists of voters in such  
26 city, town or plantation, without requiring the further  
27 production of his naturalization papers, so long as he  
28 shall continue to reside in such city, town or planta-  
29 tion, and shall continue to be in other respects qualified  
30 to vote under the constitution and laws of this state.  
31 And if any such officer shall willfully neglect or refuse  
32 to register as aforesaid the name of any such person  
33 whose papers may have been approved as aforesaid,  
34 or shall willfully omit to continue the name of any

35 such person upon the successive lists of voters as  
36 aforesaid so long as such person shall continue to be  
37 qualified to vote as aforesaid in any such city, town  
38 or plantation, he shall forfeit for every such offense a  
39 sum not less than twenty nor more than one hundred  
40 dollars, to be recovered by indictment in any court of  
41 competent jurisdiction.

SECT. 2. If said officers shall be of opinion that the  
2 said papers so produced are not genuine, or that the  
3 person presenting them is not the person to whom  
4 they were issued, or that such person is not a legal  
5 elector and entitled to vote in such city, town or  
6 plantation, they shall not be required to approve such  
7 papers as aforesaid, or to enter the name of such  
8 person on the list of voters; but such person shall not  
9 be deprived of the right to vote in such city, town or  
10 plantation, by reason of the refusal of such officers so  
11 to approve of his papers and enter his name, but his  
12 right so to vote shall be determined by law.

SECT. 3. Whenever the officers aforesaid of any  
2 city, town or plantation shall have prepared and posted  
3 up a list of voters in the months of February or March  
4 in each year, as required by law, such officers shall  
5 not afterwards strike out the name of any person on

6 such list, except as provided in the following section.  
7 And if any such officer shall strike out the name of  
8 any person on such list after the same shall have been  
9 posted up as aforesaid, except as is provided in the  
10 following section, he shall forfeit for each and every  
11 offense, a sum not less than twenty nor more than one  
12 hundred dollars, to be recovered in an action of the  
13 case by the person whose name shall have been so  
14 stricken off.

SECT. 4. Before the name of any person contained  
on such list, so prepared and posted up as afore-  
3 said, shall be stricken out of such list, if such person  
4 be then alive, and residing in the same city, town or  
5 plantation, in which such list may have been so posted  
6 up, the officers aforesaid, of such city, town or plan-  
7 tation, shall, in writing, notify such person of their  
8 purpose to strike his name from such list of voters ;  
9 and in such notice shall name the time and place  
10 when and where such person may be heard before  
11 such officers in relation to the purpose aforesaid,  
12 which notice shall be served on such person twenty-  
13 four hours at least before the time of hearing as  
14 aforesaid. But nothing in this act shall prohibit such  
15 officers from striking out of any such list the name

16 of any such person who may have deceased, or who  
17 may have removed from the city, town or plantation,  
18 in which such list was so posted up.

SECT. 5. If any person shall wrongfully alter, muti-  
2 late or erase any name borne on the list of voters of  
3 any city, town or plantation, he shall forfeit therefor  
4 a sum not less than fifty nor more than one hundred  
5 dollars, to be recovered by indictment, one-half to  
6 the use of the state, and the other half to the use of  
7 the complainant, or be imprisoned in the county jail  
8 for a period not exceeding six months.

SECT. 6. If any person shall fraudulently vote in  
2 the name of any other person, or under an assumed  
3 name, he shall for each offense be punished by a fine  
4 of not less than fifty nor more than one hundred dol-  
5 lars, to be recovered by indictment, or be imprisoned  
6 as is provided in section four of this act.

SECT. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force  
2 from and after its approval by the governor.





STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, April 4, 1856.

ORDERED, That 350 copies of the accompanying Bill, reported by the Joint Standing Committee on the Judiciary, be printed for the use of the Legislature.

WM. G. CLARK, *Secretary.*