

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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July 21, 1919

To Hon. Carl E. Milliken, Governor of Maine  
Re: Bids on Construction

In reply to yours of the 17th relative to time required for advertising for bids on construction contracts, I will call your attention to Chapter 206 of the Public Laws of 1915, wherein, by section 18 thereof, it is provided that no contract involving an expenditure of more than five hundred dollars shall be made unless the same be duly advertised and competitors' bids received. The term "said buildings", by context at least, may include any buildings erected additional to those forming the original plant.

The term "duly advertised" means reasonably advertised and what may be deemed reasonably is a matter of judgment. One advertisement generally throughout the papers of the state ten days before the date set for receiving bids would undoubtedly be sufficient. More than one insertion, the last not later than one week prior to the date of opening bids, would undoubtedly be sufficient. Three insertions, one on Saturday, another the following Saturday, and the third the following Monday, such Monday being one week prior to the date of opening bids would be undoubtedly sufficient. I would not recommend less than one of the periods suggested above although it would be difficult as a matter of law to say that a less period was not sufficient.

Any person desiring to bid should have sufficient time to obtain and examine the specifications and plans and to make up his bid. If, using due care and reasonable speed, it was impossible for the average contractor to prepare and submit a bid within the time given, it would be deemed unreasonable and not "duly advertised".

Guy H. Sturgis  
Attorney General