

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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May 25, 1939

Honorable Lewis O. Barrows
Governor of Maine
State House
Augusta, Maine

Dear Governor Barrows:

You asked me this morning if there is any provision of the statutes whereby a person legally qualified to vote, can register as a voter in the City of Brewer, at any time other than at the regular statutory sessions of the Board of Registration.

By Chapter 6, Section 21 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 54 of the Public Laws of 1933, the times for holding sessions for Boards of Registration in the various cities of the State, is definitely established. In cities of less than 10,000 inhabitants, which would include the City of Brewer, the provision is that the Board shall be in session on each of the nine secular days prior to any election: The first six days in open session, and the latter three days in closed session. The closed session being to enable the Board to verify the correctness of its lists and to close up its records of said sessions.

This Section further provides that no name except as hereinafter provided shall be added to or stricken from the register of voters after nine o'clock in the afternoon of the last of said days devoted to registration, and it is further provided that the Board shall not place upon the voting list the name of any person who shall not personally appear before said board in open session and request it.

In my opinion it would not be possible for a Board of Registration, at any time other than on the days fixed by statute, to receive the registration of any applicant for registration, it being apparent

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that all registrations must be made in open session
of the Board, and also apparent that no open sessions
can be held except on the dates specified.

Very truly yours,

Franz U. Burkett
Attorney General

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