

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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April 19, 1940

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

My dear Governor Barrows:

In your letter to me under date of April 18, you ask if, in my opinion, Mr. Homer M. Orr who has been Deputy State Purchasing Agent since March 14, 1938, can act officially for the Department of Finance and continue the essential routine of the office of the State Purchasing Agent until the appointment and confirmation of a new Commissioner of Finance.

Mr. Orr's tenure of office is not affected by the resignation of Mr. Owen as Commissioner of Finance, or as State Purchasing Agent. He is a member of the classified service with an appointment approved by Your Excellency and the Executive Council.

I understand that under Mr. Owen's orders he has performed all of the duties of the State Purchasing Agent since his appointment, and that he is entirely familiar with all of the routine of the Bureau, which Bureau has many duties and responsibilities in the purchase of essential supplies that must be performed daily.

In my opinion Mr. Orr should continue to carry on all of the essential routine of the office as Deputy State Purchasing Agent, making such purchases in accordance with the system which has been established for the office under the Code as are necessary for the carrying on of the work of the various State departments until the newly appointed Commissioner of Finance has had his appointment confirmed by the Executive Council, has qualified and assumed the duties of his office and appointed a State Purchasing Agent.

Respectfully yours,

Franz J. Burkett
Attorney General

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