

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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November 25, 1946

Harvey R. Pease, Esq.
Wiscasset, Maine

Dear Harvey,

This department hereby confirms what the writer said to you today as to your duties as Clerk of the House of Representatives under Section 2 of Chapter 375, P. L. 1945. This was an amendment to Section 7 of Chapter 9 of the Revised Statutes of 1944, the pertinent provision of which is as follows:

" . . . He (the clerk) shall when the legislature is not in session be the executive officer of the legislature, and unless the legislature otherwise order, have custody of all legislative property and material, arrange for necessary supplies, services, and equipment, make all arrangements for incoming sessions, of the legislature, etc. . . ."

Your inquiry related to the question of contracting for the printing of the legislative acts and doings and whether you would be performing your duty if you contracted for this printing through the State Bureau of Purchases. Although the provisions of Chapter 14, Section 35 et seq. providing for the powers and duties of the Bureau of Purchases have no application to purchases made by the legislature (See exception to the Repealing Act, p. 2240 of R. S. 1944, excepting Chapter 216, Article I, Section 1 of the Laws of 1931) I am of the opinion that in the performance of your duty you may negotiate and consummate this contract through the Bureau of Purchases and in doing so that you would be fulfilling your duties under the amendment of 1945 above referred to.

Sincerely,

Abraham Breitbard
Deputy Attorney General

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