

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1366

H. P. 932

House of Representatives, February 13, 1963

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Bussiere of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-THREE

AN ACT Creating a State Lottery for the State of Maine.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

R. S., c. 87-A, additional. The Revised Statutes are amended by adding a new chapter 87-A, to read as follows:

'Chapter 87-A.

State Lottery.

Sec. 1. **Maine Lottery Drawing.** The Treasurer of State shall conduct a semiannual drawing to be known as the "Maine Lottery Drawing" under such plans, rules and regulations as he may adopt, subject to approval of the Maine Lottery Commission. The lottery tickets shall be sold for \$3 each by present bonded employees of the office of the said Treasurer of State and by the present bonded employees at the treasurers' offices of the counties and the municipalities. Tickets may be sold by present bonded employees of state-chartered banks, if authorized by the Treasurer of State, and by state liquor stores. All winning tickets shall be tax free.

The expense involved in printing the Maine lottery tickets and other necessary expenses shall be deducted from the gross receipts thereof and all the balance of the gross receipts shall be divided as follows: 50% of gross sale of tickets sold shall go for purses and the balance after expenses to go for increasing subsidy to our school teachers in the State and vocational schools for the State.

The \$3 Maine lottery tickets may be sold in any quantity to any person or persons over 21 years of age who personally presents himself during working

hours at any of the aforesaid treasurers' offices or state-chartered banks in Maine, and all state liquor stores during the year.

All tickets shall be sold with no commissions or so-called discounts.

The Maine Lottery Drawing shall be held in public the week before Christmas at the State House, or at some date set by the Maine Lottery Commission. The official drawing of the lottery winners' numbers shall be conducted in the same manner as the Washington, D. C. Fish Bowl Lotteries were conducted to draft our young men into the armed services.

Sec. 2. Penalty. Whoever, other than a state-chartered bank or a state, county, city or town treasurers' office sells said tickets, or whoever counterfeits Maine lottery drawing tickets, or whoever is found guilty of illegally tampering in any manner in the conduct of an annual Maine Lottery Drawing shall be punished by a fine of \$1,000 and by imprisonment for not less than 11 months.

Sec. 3. The Maine Lottery Drawing Commission. As a further safeguard to a foolproof and corruptproof lottery drawing, there shall be a State Commission of 3 clergymen to be known as "The Maine Lottery Drawing Commission," to be appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Council, for a term of 3 years. These 3 clergymen from the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faiths shall serve in a public-spirited and civic-minded capacity without compensation and shall be 3 spiritual leaders who are keenly interested in obtaining new revenue for the State of Maine in a legal manner.

The commission shall approve all rules and regulations necessary for the honest and efficient administration of a yearly Maine Lottery Drawing.

Sec. 4. Distribution. The Treasurer of State shall have the State Police distribute the tickets in the counties and to all liquor stores in the State of Maine. The State Department of Audit shall make a public audit of all the tickets, books, prizes and records to further guarantee and safeguard the honest and efficient administration of an annual Maine Lottery Drawing.'

Referendum for ratification. The aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns and the assessors of the several plantations of this State are empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and holding biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of Senators and Representatives at the next general or special state-wide election to give in their votes upon the acceptance or rejection of the foregoing act, and the question shall be:

"Shall 'An Act Creating a State Lottery for the State of Maine,' passed by the 101st Legislature, be accepted?"

The inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said question and shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed against the words "Yes" and "No" their opinion of the same. The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and return made to the office of the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for Governor and Members of the Legislature, and the Governor and Council shall count the same, and if it shall appear that majority of the in-

habitants voting on the question are in favor of the act, the Governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation, and the act shall become effective in 30 days after the date of said proclamation.

Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to the several cities, towns and plantations ballots and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing act, accompanied by a copy thereof.