

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 955

H. P. 717

House of Representatives, February 3, 1965

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

JEROME G. PLANTE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Bussiere of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-FIVE

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

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

R. S., T. 8, c. 14, additional. Title 8 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 14 to read as follows:

‘CHAPTER 14

LOTTERY DRAWING

§ 361. Lottery drawing

The State Treasurer shall conduct an annual 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 \$2 each semiannually by the present bonded employees of said State Treasurer’s office and by the present bonded employees at the treasurer’s offices of the 16 counties and the municipalities. Tickets may be sold by present bonded employees of state-chartered banks in Maine, if authorized by the State Treasurer, and by all state liquor stores in the State of Maine.

§ 362. Expenses and proceeds

The compensation of the commission, expenses of the commissioners, compensation of assistants and other necessary expenses of the commission, including suitable furniture, equipment, supplies and office expense shall be charged to and paid out of the funds received under this chapter, provided that no payment shall be made until sufficient money has been received under this chapter to cover said payments. 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 shall go for increasing subsidy to our school teachers in the State of Maine and vocational schools for the State of Maine.

§ 363. Tickets

The \$2 Maine Lottery Drawing tickets may be sold in any quantity to any person or persons over 21 years of age.

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

§ 364. Drawing

The Maine Lottery Drawing shall be held at some date set by the Maine Lottery Commission. The official drawing, to take place in the 3 largest cities of the State of Maine, namely, Portland, Lewiston and Bangor, of 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. A drawing shall be made for every \$2,500,000 collected. The prizes shall be as follows: 2 prizes of \$100,000 each; 4 prizes of \$50,000 each; 8 prizes of \$25,000 each; 10 prizes of \$20,000 each; 10 prizes of \$15,000 each and 25 prizes of \$2,000 each.

§ 365. Penalty

Whoever, other than a state-chartered bank or a state, county or municipal treasurer's office sells said tickets, or whoever counterfeits Maine Lottery Drawing tickets, or whoever is found guilty of illegally tampering in any manner in the honest and legal conduct of an annual Maine Lottery Drawing shall be punished by a fine of \$1,000 and by a jail sentence of not less than one year on their first conviction with an increased jail sentence and an increased fine on any and every additional conviction.

§ 366. Maine Lottery Drawing Commission

As a further safeguard to a foolproof and corruptproof lottery drawing, there shall be a state commission of 3 members to be known as "The Maine Lottery Drawing Commission" to be appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Council, initially for a term of one, 2 and 3 years and thereafter for a term of 3 years. These 3 commissioners shall serve in a public-spirited and civic-minded capacity and shall receive \$3,000 each, except the chairman who shall receive \$3,500. They shall be 3 leaders who are keenly interested in the State's obtaining new revenue in a legal manner. Members of the commission shall give bond in an amount to be determined by the Treasurer of State.

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

§ 367. Distribution and audit

The Treasurer of State shall determine if the tickets shall be distributed in the 16 counties and to all liquor stores in the State of Maine and such distribution shall be made by the State Police. The State Auditor 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.'