

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1616

S. P. 536

In Senate, April 6, 1971

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Clifford of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Maine Department, The American Legion.

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

Maine Department, The American Legion. The unincorporated, nonprofit fraternal benefit society known as "Maine Department, The American Legion" is hereby granted permission to use the word "Maine" in its name when it is organized as a nonstock, nonprofit corporation under Title 13, chapter 18, Maine Revised Statutes and amendments thereto.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Maine Department, The American Legion is an unincorporated, non-profit fraternal benefit society whose membership is composed of veterans of all wars declared or undeclared, from World War I to date.

The organization has been in continuous existence since 1919 and finding that it is not a corporation, now deems it necessary and proper that it be incorporated as a nonprofit fraternal benefit corporation under the laws of Maine.

Because the organization has been known for 52 years as "Maine Department, The American Legion", it is desired to perpetuate this famous name and to entitle the new corporation to use the name "Maine Department, The American Legion".

The provisions of Title 13, chapter 81, section 982, M.R.S.A. prohibit the use of the word "Maine" in the name of a corporation.

The purpose of this bill is to permit the organization to use the word "Maine" in its new corporate name. Because of the fact that the word "Maine" has been part of its title for so long, it is felt that the continuation of its use in the new corporate name does not substantially affect the intent of the law.