

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

---

---

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

---

---

Legislative Document

No. 1441

H. P. 1147

House of Representatives, March 25, 1975

Referred to the Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. LaPointe of Portland.

---

---

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE

---

AN ACT to Authorize the Appointment of a State Poet Laureate.

---

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

Sec. 1. 27 MRSA c. 16 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 16

POET LAUREATE

§ 461. Position of Poet Laureate established

There shall be a Poet Laureate of the State of Maine.

§ 462. Duty

The Poet Laureate shall compose appropriate poetry upon important state occasions. These occasions shall include, but not be limited to, inaugurations of Maine Governors and other heads of state, confirmations of major governmental appointees and members of the Maine congressional delegation, commencements and conclusions of Maine legislative sessions, the passage of major legislation and deaths and retirements of persons widely known in the State. He shall also, at his discretion, compose poetry to mark happenings and issues of general and historic public interest.

§ 463. Appointment of Poet Laureate

Whenever the position of Poet Laureate for the State of Maine becomes vacant by the death or resignation of the previous Poet Laureate, the Maine State Commission on the Arts and the Humanities shall, within 3 months, submit to the Governor the names of no more than 3 nominees learned and

practiced in poetry for the position of Poet Laureate. The Governor shall, within one month after receiving the nominations from the commission, appoint a Poet Laureate for the State of Maine from those nominations, who shall serve until his death or resignation.

§ 464. Preservation of poetry composed by Poet Laureate

The Maine State Commission on the Arts and the Humanities shall, at appropriate times, collect and make available to the public all or part of the poetry previously composed by poet laureates upon state occasions.

**Sec. 2. Appointment of first Poet Laureate.** The Governor, within 3 months of the effective date of this Act, from a list of 3 nominees submitted to him by the Maine State Commission on the Arts and the Humanities, shall appoint a Poet Laureate for the State of Maine who shall serve until his death or resignation.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act creates the position of Poet Laureate of the State of Maine.