

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 108

S. P. 51

In Senate, January 19, 1977

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

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Pierce of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Licensing of Theaters and Motion Picture Houses.

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

Sec. 1. 8 MRSA §§ 651 - 652, as last amended by PL 1971, c. 592, §§ 32 and 33, are repealed and the following enacted in their place.

§ 651. License required

No building or place of assembly shall be used for theatrical or motion picture purposes unless a license or permit shall have first been obtained from the Commissioner of Public Safety. All buildings used for these purposes shall comply with the statutes and lawful regulations promulgated and properly adopted by the Commissioner of Public Safety before a license may be issued. Each theater auditorium in a building shall be licensed.

§ 652. Applications for license; inspections

Whoever desires to use any building or place of assembly for theatrical or motion picture purposes described in section 651 shall make application to the Commissioner of Public Safety for a license. Upon receipt of the application, the commissioner shall inspect or cause to be inspected that building or place of assembly used for theatrical or motion picture purposes to ascertain its compliance with the statutes and regulations. If as a result of the inspection the commissioner is convinced that the regulations are fully complied with, he may issue a license to the person desiring to operate that building or place of assembly for theatrical or motion picture purposes. A fee for a license shall be \$25. All theatrical or motion picture licenses issued shall expire one year after date of issue unless sooner revoked. The fees shall be credited to the State Fire Marshal's Office to defray the expenses of the office. Any balance

of those fees shall not lapse but shall be carried forward as a continuing account to be expended for the same purposes in the following fiscal years. No fee shall be required for the licensing of public, private or state-owned school buildings or municipality, county or state-owned buildings.

Sec. 2. 8 MRSA §§ 653, 654 and 655, as amended by PL 1971, c. 592, §§ 32 and 33, are repealed.

Sec. 3. 8 MRSA § 656 is repealed.

Sec. 4. 8 MRSA § 657 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:
§ 657. Violations

Whoever operates any building or place of assembly for theatrical or motion picture purposes contrary to sections 651 and 652 shall be guilty of a Class E crime.

Sec. 5. 8 MRSA § 659 is repealed.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this bill is to modify the requirements regarding licenses for theatrical purposes and to repeal certain provisions pertaining to operator licenses. It also repeals provisions for construction standards for projection booths.