

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 214

S. P. 99

In Senate, January 12, 1981

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

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Collins of Knox.

Cosponsors: Senator Hichens of York and Senator Clark of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT to Repeal the State Lottery Commission.

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

Sec. 1. 8 MRSA c. 14, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 570, § 1, and as amended, is repealed.

Sec. 2. Transition provisions. The Commissioner of Finance and Administration shall be responsible for the orderly termination of the State Lottery Commission.

1. The commissioner shall retain from the State Lottery Commission funds an amount sufficient to pay all debts of the commission and unclaimed prizes. Unclaimed prize money for the prize on a winning ticket or share shall be retained by the commissioner for the person entitled thereto for one year after the drawing in which the prize was won. All funds not required for these purposes shall revert to the General Fund.

2. The commissioner, with the assistance of the Commissioner of Personnel, shall make every effort to find continuous state employment for employees of the commission in the same or similar jobs.

3. All supplies, equipment and other property formerly belonging to the commission shall be in the custody of the commissioner, who may transfer it to other state agencies as is appropriate.

Sec. 3. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at special statewide election; effective date. This Act shall be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Maine at a statewide election to be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following passage of this Act. The city aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

“Shall the State Lottery Commission be repealed?”

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice by a cross of check mark placed within a corresponding square below the word “Yes” or “No.” The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes are in favor of the Act, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay, and the Act shall become effective 30 days after the date of the proclamation.

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill proposes a referendum to abolish the State Lottery Commission.