

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE.

SENATE

No. 6.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE to provide for a state valuation.

Resolved, That the governor is hereby authorized,
2 with the advice and consent of the council, to im-
3 mediately appoint a commission of five persons, one
4 of whom shall be taken from each of the five con-
5 gressional districts within this state, and two at
6 large, to prepare a full, just and equal valuation of
7 the estates, and an enumeration of the polls sub-
8 ject to be taxed, as a basis of taxation for state
9 purposes, and to report the same to this legislature;
10 *provided*, such valuation shall be completed during
11 its present session, or an adjourment thereof,
12 otherwise to report to the legislature of eighteen
13 hundred and eighty-one.

Resolved, That the commissioners thus appointed
2 shall hold their first session at the capitol at
3 Augusta, immediately after their appointment, and

4 shall proceed without delay to prepare said valua-
5 tion, and shall sit at the same place without adjour-
6 ment for more than two days at one time until the
7 preparation of said valuation is completed, or until
8 the final adjournment of this legislature. In case
9 the report of this commission cannot be completed
10 before said final adjournment, the same shall be
11 made to the next legislature on the first day of its
12 session. Said commissioners shall give such pub-
13 lic notice of their session as they may deem proper,
14 and also a printed notice mailed to the assessors of
15 the several cities, towns and plantations, requiring
16 them to appear personally with, or transmit to
17 them immediately, unless the same have already
18 been transmitted to the secretary of state, the sev-
19 eral tax and valuation lists and lists of taxable
20 polls of their several cities, towns and plantations,
21 for the years eighteen hundred seventy-seven,
22 eighteen hundred seventy-eight, and eighteen hun-
23 dred and seventy-nine, containing the estates and
24 property taxable therein and the fair cash value of
25 each kind of property therein enumerated, as re-
26 quired by law, and the correctness of said lists of
27 taxable polls and estates and the valuation of the
28 property therein enumerated for the year eighteen
29 hundred and seventy-nine, shall be verified by the

30 oath or affirmation of said several assessors or one
31 of them. Said commissioners shall have power to
32 summon before them and examine upon oath either
33 of said assessors, any town or city officer, or other
34 person, touching such lists and the amount and
35 value of the taxable property in said several cities,
36 towns and plantations, and all other matters con-
37 nected therewith, and to require such person sum-
38 moned to produce all records or other public docu-
39 ments relating thereto. If the assessors of any
40 city, town or plantation, or one of them, shall fail
41 to appear before said commission or transmit to
42 them the lists above named within ten days after
43 the mailing and publication of said notices, the
44 said commissioners may in their discretion and
45 upon such other information as they may obtain,
46 report the valuation of the estates and property
47 and lists of polls, liable to taxation in such city,
48 town or plantation so in default, as they shall
49 deem just and equitable.

Resolved, That the land agent be and is hereby
2 required to immediately prepare and deliver to said
3 commissioners full and accurate lists of all town-
4 ships or parts of townships or lots or parcels of
5 wild lands in this state sold and not included in
6 the tax lists, whether conveyed or not conveyed,

7 together with the fair value thereof, and to lay
8 before said commissioners all information in his
9 possession touching the value of wild lands when
10 required by them so to do ; also a statement of all
11 lands on which timber has been sold, or a permit
12 or right to cut timber has been sold or granted by
13 lease or otherwise, together with the fair value
14 thereof. All other state officers shall in like man-
15 ner lay all information in their possession, touching
16 said valuation, before said commissioners when
17 requested by them so to do.

Resolved, That the secretary of state shall imme-
2 diately notify each of said commissioners, of his
3 appointment. A majority of said commisssioners
4 shall constitute a quorum. They may appoint a
5 chairman from their number and employ a suitable
6 clerk to keep their records, and such other clerks
7 as they deem necessary, not to exceed
8 in number unless this legislature shall otherwise
9 direct.

Resolved, That the secretary of state furnish to
2 said commissioners, for their use in preparing said
3 valuation all necessary stationery, blanks, blank-
4 books, printed notices and summonses. That as a
5 full compensation for services said commissioners
6 shall each receive from the state treasury

7 dollars per day whilst actually engaged in prepar-
8 ing said valuation and making their report there-
9 on ; and said clerks employed by said commission-
10 ers shall each in like manner receive not exceeding
11 two and fifty one-hundredths dollars per day whilst
12 actually employed in the duties of said commission.
13 Said commissioners and clerks shall be allowed
14 actual traveling expenses in once traveling to and
15 returning from Augusta. The accounts of said
16 commissioners and their clerks for services and
17 travel shall be audited by the council and when
18 the same are approved by them the governor shall
19 be authorized to draw his warrant upon the treas-
20 urer therefor.

AMENDMENT "A" OFFERED BY THE MINORITY OF
THE COMMITTEE.

Strike out the word "five" when it first appears in the first resolve and insert the word "sixteen," and strike out the words "five congressional districts within this State and two at large," in said first resolve, and insert the words "Counties in the State."

STATE OF MAINE.

In SENATE, February 4, 1880.

Reported by Mr. DINGLEY from the Committee on Valuation,
and ordered printed with amendment "A."

C. W. TILDEN, *Secretary.*