

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty - Third Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 89.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND
EIGHTY-SEVEN.

AN ACT to insure the Better Education of Practi-
tioners of Dental Surgery and to Regulate the
Practice of Dentistry in the State of Maine.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives
in Legislature assembled, as follows:*

SECTION 1. That it shall be unlawful for any
2 person, who is not at the time of the passage of
3 this act engaged in the practice of dentistry in
4 this State, to practice dentistry unless he or she
5 shall have obtained a certificate as herein provided,
6 or shall hold a diploma from a college or univer-
7 sity, chartered under the authority of some one of
8 the United States or foreign governments.

SECT. 2. A board of examiners, to consist of five
2 reputable practicing dentists, is hereby created,
3 whose duty it shall be to carry out the purposes
4 and enforce the provisions of this act. The mem-
5 bers of said board shall be elected by the Maine
6 Dental Society at their next annual meeting; the
7 term for which the members of said board shall
8 hold their office shall be for two years, except that
9 two members of the board first to be elected under
10 this act, shall hold their office for only one year;
11 *provided, however,* that the president of said Den-
12 tal Society shall have power to remove any mem-
13 ber of the board, for cause; also to fill any vacan-
14 cies that may occur.

SECT. 3. That said board shall choose one of its
2 members president and one secretary thereof; it
3 shall fix the time and place of its meeting or meet-
4 ings; *provided, however,* that said board shall meet
5 at least once a year. A majority of said board
6 shall constitute a quorum, and the proceedings
7 thereof shall at all reasonable times be open to
8 public inspection. The board shall also make an
9 annual report of its proceedings to the State Den-
10 tal Society.

SECT. 4. That within six months from the time
2 the first board is elected, it shall be the duty of

3 every person who is at that time engaged in the
4 practice of dentistry in this State, to cause his or
5 her name and residence, or place of business, to-
6 gether with a statement from what dental college
7 graduated, if a graduate, and the length of prac-
8 tice, to be registered with the board of examiners,
9 who shall keep a book for this purpose; every per-
10 son who shall so register with said board as a prac-
11 titioner of dentistry, may continue to practice the
12 same as such and shall receive a certificate of such
13 registration upon his or her paying to said board
14 one dollar for such certificate; *provided, however,*
15 that if any person fail to register as provided in
16 this section within the said six months, he or she
17 shall appear before said board as provided in sec-
18 tion five.

SECT. 5. That any and all persons who shall de-
2 sire to commence such practice, may appear before
3 said board at any of its regular meetings, and be
4 examined with reference to their knowledge and
5 skill in dental surgery, and if the examination of
6 any such person or persons shall prove satisfactory
7 to said board, the board of examiners shall issue
8 to such persons as they find to possess the requisite
9 qualifications a certificate to that effect, in accord-
10 ance with the provisions of this act, upon the pay-

11 ment of one dollar for such certificate; *provided*,
12 that any person holding a diploma from a regular
13 dental college shall not be subjected to an examin-
14 ation, but upon presentation of such diploma shall
15 be granted a certificate as herein provided. All
16 certificates issued by said board shall be signed by
17 its officers and shall be *prima facie* evidence of
18 the right of the holder to practice dentistry in the
19 State of Maine.

SECT. 6. Any person who shall wilfully violate
2 any of the provisions of this act shall be deemed
3 guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, in
4 any court having criminal jurisdiction, may be
5 fined not less than fifty nor more than three hun-
6 dred dollars, or be confined in the county jail not
7 more than six months, in the discretion of the
8 court; all fines received under this act shall be
9 paid into the common school fund of the city or
10 town where such person shall have been practic-
11 ing.

SECT. 7. One member of such board may grant
2 any certificate provided for in this act, to any ap-
3 plicant, upon presentation by such applicant of the
4 evidence requisite for obtaining said certificate,
5 which certificate shall remain in force until the

6 next regular meeting of said board and no longer,
7 but no member shall grant a certificate to any per-
8 son rejected by said board.

SECT. 8. Nothing in this act shall be so con-
2 strued as to interfere with the rights and privileges
3 of physicians and surgeons in the discharge of
4 their professional duties.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 9, 1887. }

Presented by Mr. CONDON of Friendship, and tabled for printing,
pending reference to Committee on Legal Affairs.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, *Clerk.*