

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)

Sixty-Fifth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 4.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to promote the Efficiency of the Fire
Department of the City of Lewiston.

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

SECTION. 1. The fire department of the City of
2 Lewiston shall hereafter be under the control of a
3 Board of Fire Commissioners.

SECT. 2. Said board shall consist of five members,
2 four of whom shall be elected by the city council
3 by ballot, on the fourth Monday in March; or as
4 soon thereafter as may be convenient; and the
5 Mayor of the City for the time being shall be *ex-*
6 *officio* a member of said commission. The four
7 members first chosen aforesaid shall serve, one for
8 one year, one for two years, one for three years

9 and one for four years as may be designated by the
10 city council. Thereafter one shall be elected by
11 ballot annually as aforesaid, to serve for a term of
12 four years unless sooner removed by concurrent
13 vote of the city council, or when elected to fill an
14 unexpired term; provided, however, that not more
15 than two of the elected members of the board shall
16 at any time be members of the same political party.
17 If a member of the board accepts the office of
18 Mayor, his place on the board as an elected member
19 becomes vacant and such vacancy shall be filled
20 by the city council.

SECT. 3. Said board shall under the city council
2 have control of the engine houses, engines, hose
3 and hook and ladder trucks and all apparatus of
4 the fire department. They shall have full power
5 in the selection of a chief engineer, assistant engi-
6 neers (not to exceed four) superintendent of fire
7 alarm, engineers of steamers, drivers of hose and
8 hook and ladder trucks, engines and all officers
9 and members of hose and hook and ladder com-
10 panies; provided, however, that no person shall be
11 appointed a member or officer of any company
12 who is not a citizen of Lewiston.

SECT. 4. No person shall be appointed a per-
2 manent member of the fire department without a

3 trial, of not less than six months, unless such per-
4 son is at present a member, or has served that time
5 in the department. When a person receives a
6 permanent appointment he shall not be removed
7 unless for inefficiency or other causes detrimental
8 to the department. No discrimination shall be
9 made on account of a person's political opinion,
10 nor shall the board of fire commissioners take into
11 account the politics of applicants for trial or per-
12 manent places.

SECT. 5. The salaries of the members of the hook
2 and ladder and hose companies shall be fixed by
3 the board of fire commissioners on a basis of term
4 of service. The salaries of the chief engineer,
5 assistant engineers, superintendent of fire alarm,
6 engineers of steamers, drivers and all other em-
7 ployes of the department shall be fixed by the city
8 council on the recommendation of the commis-
9 sioners. The board of fire commissioners shall
10 serve without pay.

SECT. 6. The board shall purchase all supplies
2 necessary for the department and exercise all the
3 duties of the committee on fire department; pro-
4 vided, however, that no engine, hose, hook and
5 ladder or hose truck shall be purchased without a
6 vote of the city council authorizing the same.

SECT. 7 The board shall proceed to reorganize
2 the department according to the spirit of this act.
3 No member of the present companies or department
4 shall be considered a permanent member, until
5 appointed by the board of fire commissioners,
6 which must be done within one year after the
7 organization of said board. The board may make
8 such rules and regulations for the government and
9 efficiency of the department, subject to the approval
10 of the city council, as they may deem advisable
11 and which shall not be inconsistent with the laws
12 of the State and ordinances of the city.

SECT. 8. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent
2 with this act are hereby repealed.

SECT. 9. This act shall take effect March 21, 1891.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January, 20, 1891. }

Reported from the Committee on Legal Affairs by Mr. NOBLE of
Lewiston and ordered printed, pending recommitment.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*