

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Sixty-Ninth Legislature.

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HOUSE.

No. 21.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT to regulate the Fire Department of the City of  
Portland.

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

Section 1. The mayor of the city of Portland is hereby  
2 authorized and empowered to appoint, on the second Mon-  
3 day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight  
4 hundred and ninety-nine, or as soon thereafter as may be,  
5 subject to the approval of the board of aldermen, a fire com-  
6 missioner who shall hold office for three years at the first  
7 appointment under this act, and until his successor is quali-  
8 fied. Each succeeding appointment thereafter shall be for  
9 a term of three years. The fire commissioner shall receive

10 such salary as the city council may determine. In case any  
11 vacancy should occur it may be filled for the unexpired term,  
12 in the manner of the original appointment. The mayor may  
13 remove the fire commissioner at any time, for cause, subject  
14 to the approval of the board of aldermen.

Sect. 2. The fire department shall be in the charge of  
2 said fire commissioner under such rules and regulations as  
3 the board of aldermen may by ordinance determine.

All present officers and members of the fire department shall  
5 continue to hold office for the full terms for which they  
6 were elected or appointed unless sooner removed as herein  
7 provided, and all future appointments of members of the  
8 fire department, the number of whom shall be determined  
9 by the city council, except as herein otherwise provided, shall  
10 be made by the fire commissioner from persons certified to  
11 him by the police examining board, which shall hereafter  
12 be known as the police and fire department examining board,  
13 in the same manner that persons are certified to the mayor  
14 for appointment to the police force of the city of Portland  
15 under the provisions of the act aforesaid entitled "An Act  
16 regulating the appointment of members of the police force  
17 of the city of Portland," approved March 4, 1885, and acts  
18 additional thereto and amendatory thereof. All officers and  
19 members of the fire department appointed by the fire com-  
20 missioner under this act shall hold the office to which they  
21 were appointed until removed by the fire commissioner for  
22 such cause as he shall deem sufficient and assign in writing  
23 in his order for removal, which order shall be filed with the  
24 city clerk for public inspection.

Sect. 3. The fire commissioner shall have sole charge of  
2 a department, to be known as the fire department, and shall  
3 purchase and keep in repair all apparatus therefor, including  
4 the fire alarm telegraph and telephone system; shall have  
5 exercise of all the powers and duties conferred by statute  
6 upon fire engineers, to be exercised by himself or by his sub-  
7 ordinates as he may direct, shall appoint a chief engineer  
8 and not exceeding four assistant engineers and a city elec-  
9 trician who shall be the superintendent of the fire alarm  
10 telegraph and telephone system, without their being certified  
11 by the police and fire department examining board, and shall  
12 appoint all other firemen when certified as provided in the  
13 preceding section, shall perform such other duties and have  
14 such powers not inconsistent herewith as the board of alder-  
15 men may prescribe.

Sect. 4. Said chief engineer shall direct the work of the  
2 members of the fire department in case of fire, act as the  
3 executive officer of said fire commissioner, and have author-  
4 ity, in case of fire, to establish fire limits in the neighborhood  
5 of the building or buildings in which a fire may have  
6 occurred and to prevent persons not authorized by him from  
7 coming within said limits.

Sect. 5. The city council shall annually appropriate such  
2 sums of money as it may deem necessary and sufficient to  
3 carry on the work of said commissioner. Such appropria-  
4 tion shall be drawn from the city treasury in such manner  
5 as the city council may by ordinance direct.

STATE OF MAINE.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, January 27, 1899.

Reported by Mr. VIRGIN of Portland, from Committee on Judiciary,  
and ordered printed and recommitted.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*