

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Seventieth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 226

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to provide for voting by machines.

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

Section 1. The secretary of state, the attorney general
2 and one member of the governor's council to be designated
3 by the governor, shall, at such times, under such condi-
4 tions, and after such public notice as they see fit to give,
5 examine voting and counting machines and apparatus;
6 and they shall certify their approval of such machines as,
7 in their judgment, furnish convenient, simple and satis-
8 factory means of voting and of ascertaining the true result
9 thereof with facility and accuracy, special regard being
10 had to preventing and detecting double voting; but no
11 machine shall be approved which does not secure to the
12 voter a degree of secrecy in voting equal to that afforded

13 by the use of the official ballot as provided by law. No
14 machine except such as is approved by said officers and
15 used in accordance with this act shall be used in this state.

Sect. 2. A city or town may, at a legal meeting held
2 not less than ten days before any regular election, deter-
3 mine upon and purchase or accept for trial, and order
4 the use of one or more voting and counting machines for
5 the then ensuing election in said city or town and there-
6 after in case said machine or machines are purchased, at
7 all elections in cities and at state and presidential elections
8 in towns, until otherwise voted at a legal meeting, said
9 machines shall be used for the purpose of voting for the
10 officers to be elected at such elections and for taking the
11 vote upon constitutional amendments and all other ques-
12 tions submitted to vote at such elections.

Sect. 3. When voting and counting machines are
2 approved and purchased the persons of whom such machines
3 are purchased shall give to the secretary of state a suitable
4 bond with sufficient sureties, conditioned to keep each
5 machine in good working order for five years at their own
6 expense.

Sect. 4. The secretary of state shall make regulations
2 for the use of machines approved and before each state and
3 presidential election shall furnish appropriate instructions
4 for the voters in cities and towns where such machines are
5 used and like appropriate instructions shall be furnished
6 by clerks of cities before each city election.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

AUGUSTA, February 25, 1901.

Reported by Mr. PUTNAM of Houlton, from Committee on Legal
Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*