

SEVENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

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No. 275

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to amend section 12, chapter 135, of the Revised Statutes, relating to the challenge of jurors in certain criminal cases.

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

Section 1. Section twelve of chapter one hundred and 2 thirty-five of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by 3 striking out the word "five" in the tenth line of said section, 4 and inserting in lieu thereof the word 'ten,' so that said sec-5 tion, as amended, shall read as follows:

'Sect. 12. When a person indicted for an offense punish-7 able by imprisonment for life, is put upon his trial, the clerk, 8 under the direction of the court, shall place the names of all 9 the traverse jurors summoned and in attendance, in a box, 10 upon separate tickets, and the names, after being mixed,

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11 shall be drawn from the box by the clerk one at a time, for 12 the purpose of constituting a jury of trial. All peremptory 13 challenges, except as herein provided, and all other chal-14 lenges and objections to the juror drawn, shall be made and 15 determined, and the juror sworn or set aside, before another 16 name is drawn, and so on until the panel is completed. The 17 state shall not challenge more than ten jurors peremptorily, 18 and the person indicted shall not challenge peremptorily 19 more than twenty of the jurors while the panel is being 20 formed; but he may, before the trial commences, challenge 21 peremptorily, two of the jurors from the panel. The 22 supreme judicial court may, by general rules, prescribe the 23 mode of exercising the right of challenge from the panel in 24 all criminal cases.'

Sect. 2. This act shall take effect when approved.

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STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, March 15, 1907.

Reported by Mr. DEASY from Committee on Judiciary, and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

F. G. FARRINGTON, Secretary.