

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE.

No. 108

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT to regulate the employment of legislative lobby counsel and agents and to provide for the return of legislative expenses.

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*Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:*

Section 1. Every person, corporation or association which  
2 employs any person to act as counsel or agent to promote  
3 or oppose in any manner, the passage by the legislature of  
4 any legislation affecting the pecuniary interests of any indi-  
5 vidual, association or corporation as distinct from those of  
6 the whole people of the State, or to act in any manner as  
7 a legislative counsel or agent in connection with any such  
8 legislation, shall, within one week after the date of such  
9 employment, cause the name of the person so employed or

10 agreed to be employed, to be entered upon a legislative  
11 docket as hereinafter provided. It shall also be the duty  
12 of the person so employed to enter or cause to be entered  
13 his name upon such docket. Upon the termination of such  
14 employment such fact may be entered opposite the name  
15 of any person so employed either by the employer or em-  
16 ploye.

Sect. 2. The secretary of state shall prepare and keep  
2 two legislative dockets in conformity with the provisions  
3 of this act, one of which shall be known as the docket of  
4 the legislative counsel before committees, and the other as  
5 the docket of legislative agents. In the docket of legis-  
6 lative counsel shall be entered the names of counsel or per-  
7 sons employed to appear at a public hearing before a com-  
8 mittee of the legislature for the purpose of making an  
9 argument or examining witnesses, and also the names of  
10 any regular legal counsel of any person, corporation or  
11 association who act or advise in relation to legislation; in  
12 the docket of legislative agents shall be entered the names  
13 of all agents employed for any purpose in connection with  
14 any legislation included within the terms of section one  
15 of this act. In such dockets shall be entered the names  
16 and business address of the employer, the name, residence  
17 and occupation of the person employed, the date of the  
18 employment or agreement therefor, the length of time that  
19 the employment is to continue, if such time can be deter-  
20 mined, and the special subject or subjects of legislation, if

21 any, to which the employment relates. Such dockets shall  
22 be public records and open to the inspection of any citizen  
23 upon demand at any time during the regular business hours  
24 of the office of the secretary of state.

Sect. 3. Any person, corporation or association employ-  
2 ing any legislative counsel or agent shall, whenever further  
3 subjects of legislation are introduced or arise which such  
4 counsel or agent is to promote or oppose, make or cause to  
5 be made additional entries opposite his or its name in the  
6 appropriate docket, stating such special employment and  
7 specifically referring to the petitions, orders, bills or other  
8 subjects of legislation to which the same relates, and such  
9 entries shall also be made opposite the names of such coun-  
10 sel or agents, in such manner that such entries shall show  
11 all the subjects of legislation in relation to which any coun-  
12 sel or agent is employed. No person shall appear as coun-  
13 sel before any committee of the legislature or of either  
14 branch thereof, or act as agent in respect to any legislation  
15 coming within the terms of section one of this act, unless  
16 his name appears upon the docket of legislative counsel or  
17 agent as employed in respect to such matter as above pro-  
18 vided. No person, private or public corporation or asso-  
19 ciation shall, directly or indirectly, employ any person as  
20 legislative counsel or agent in respect to any legislation  
21 coming within the terms of section one, unless the name of  
22 such person is duly entered on the legislative docket as  
23 provided by this act. No person shall be employed as a

24 legislative counsel or agent for a compensation dependent  
25 in any manner upon the passage or defeat of any proposed  
26 legislation or upon any other contingency connected with  
27 the action of the legislature, or of either branch thereof,  
28 or of any committee thereof. No person whose name is  
29 entered on the docket of the legislative counsel or agent  
30 otherwise than by appearing before a committee, as afore-  
31 said, and by doing work properly incident thereto, or by  
32 giving legal advice in the case of regular legal counsel of  
33 corporations or associations, unless his name is also entered  
34 on the docket of legislative agents.

Sect. 4. Legislative counsel and agents required to have  
2 their names entered upon the legislative docket shall file  
3 with the secretary of state within ten days after the date of  
4 making such entry a written authorization to act as such,  
5 signed by the person or corporation employing them.

Sect. 5. Within thirty days after the final adjournment  
2 of the legislature every person, corporation or association,  
3 whose name appears upon the legislative dockets of the  
4 session, shall file with the secretary of state a complete and  
5 detailed statement, sworn to before a notary public or jus-  
6 tice of the peace by the person making the same, or in the  
7 case of a corporation by its president or treasurer, of all  
8 expenses paid or incurred by such person, corporation or  
9 association, in connection with the employment of legis-  
10 lative counsel or agents, or in connection with promoting  
11 or opposing in any manner, the passage of the legislature

12 of any legislation coming within the terms of section one  
13 of this act. Corporations and individuals within the pro-  
14 visions of this act shall render such accounts in such forms  
15 as shall be prescribed by the secretary of state, and such  
16 reports shall be open to public inspection.

Sect. 6. Any person, corporation or association violating  
2 any provision of this act shall for such offense be fined not  
3 less than two hundred dollars nor more than five thousand  
4 dollars. Any person employed as legislative counsel or  
5 agent who shall fail to comply with any provision of this  
6 act or who shall act as legislative counsel or agent con-  
7 trary to the provisions of this act shall be fined not less than  
8 one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars,  
9 and shall be disbarred from acting in the capacity of legis-  
10 lative counsel or agent for the period of three years from  
11 the date of such conviction. It shall be the duty of the  
12 attorney general, upon information, to bring prosecutions  
13 for the violation of the provisions of this act.

Sect. 7. This act shall not apply to any municipality or  
2 other public corporation.







STATE OF MAINE.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, Feb. 9, 1909.

Tabled pending reference to a committee by Mr. DAVIES  
of Yarmouth and ordered printed.

E. M. THOMPSON, *Clerk.*