

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

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# SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE.

No. 588

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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 amend the charter of City of Westbrook.

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

Section 1. For the purpose of changing the method of  
2 appointment and term of office of the police officers of the  
3 police department of the city of Westbrook, designated as  
4 regular policemen.

Sect. 2. To amend section 20 of section 1 of chapter 257  
2 of the Privates Laws of 1907 of the State of Maine, so as  
3 to read as follows:

'Sect. 20. All the powers of establishing watch and ward,  
5 now vested by the laws of the State in the justices of the  
6 peace, and municipal officers or inhabitants of the town

7 are, so far as relates to said city, vested in the city council,  
8 and they are authorized to unite the watch and police de-  
9 partments into one department, and establish suitable reg-  
10 ulations for the government of the same. The officers of  
11 the police shall be one chief, to be styled the city marshal,  
12 so many deputy marshals as the city council shall by ordi-  
13 nance prescribe, and so many watchmen and police as the  
14 city council may from time to time adjudge necessary; such  
15 police, except marshals and deputy marshals and policemen  
16 who may be appointed for special occasions, to hold office  
17 until reaching the age of sixty years or during good be-  
18 havior, to be designated as regular police, and to be ap-  
19 pointed by the mayor upon recommendation of a committee  
20 or board of three which said committee or board shall be  
21 made up and appointed by the mayor from the city at large  
22 and serve without pay. One member at least of which com-  
23 mittee or board shall be a physician. The duty of this com-  
24 mittee shall be to examine all applicants for the position of  
25 regular policemen, ranking the same according to their  
26 mental and physical condition, so that when a vacancy oc-  
27 curs in the ranks of the regular police, the applicant who  
28 has passed the highest examination during the preceding  
29 three years, shall be the eligible candidate to be confirmed  
30 by the mayor. If, for any reason, a candidate passing the  
31 highest examination is not confirmed by the mayor or with-  
32 draws, then the candidates shall be presented for confirma-

33 tion by the mayor in the order of their standing when pass-  
34 ing the examination.

“The tenure of office of the members of this committee or  
36 board shall be for three years, one member to be appointed  
37 each year, except that the members appointed upon this  
38 committee or board during the year 1910, shall by lot decide  
39 the tenure of their office, one retiring each year. The said  
40 committee or board to have power to make suitable rules for  
41 its own government.

‘If, for any just cause, the mayor deems any officer ap-  
43 pointed under this act unsatisfactory or incompetent, he  
44 may order him to appear before said examining board, and  
45 shall prefer written charges against him, which charges  
46 shall be heard by said board; at which hearing any citizen  
47 of Westbrook may appear and be heard, and said board shall  
48 decide whether said charges have been sustained or not, and  
49 if sustained the mayor may remove such officer, and appoint  
50 another in his stead under the provisions of this act.

‘This act shall in no wise be held to affect the status of  
52 the present members of the police force of the city of West-  
53 brook, and shall in no wise affect the length of their terms  
54 of service.’

Sect. 3. This act to take effect when accepted by a major-  
2 ity vote of the citizens of the city of Westbrook at their next  
3 municipal election.

STATE OF MAINE.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, March 12, 1909.

Reported by Mr. HERSEY from Committee on Judiciary  
and ordered printed under joint rules.

**E. M. THOMPSON, Clerk.**