

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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SENATE.

No. 3

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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 chapter six of the Revised Statutes, relating  
to the regulation and conduct of Elections.

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

Section 1. Chapter six of the Revised Statutes is hereby  
2 amended by striking out section ten, as amended by chap-  
3 ter one hundred and thirty-five of the Public Laws of 1905,  
4 and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sect. 10. Every general ballot or ballots intended for  
6 the use of all voters, which shall be printed in accordance  
7 with the provisions of this chapter, shall contain the names  
8 and residences, ward residences in city elections, of all  
9 candidates whose nominations for any office specified in the  
10 ballot have been duly made and not withdrawn in accord-

11 ance herewith, and the office for which they have been sev-  
12 erally nominated and shall contain no other names except  
13 that in case of electors of president and vice-president of  
14 the United States, the names of the candidates for president  
15 and vice-president may be added to the party or political  
16 designation.

“To the name of each candidate shall be added his party  
18 or political designation expressed in accordance with sec-  
19 tion five. No greater number of candidates for any office,  
20 bearing the same designation, nominated otherwise than  
21 by nomination papers, shall be placed upon the official ballot  
22 than are to be elected.

“If the name of a political party is used in connection with  
24 some other name or term as the designation of a candidate  
25 nominated by a nomination paper, the words “nomination  
26 paper,” or “nom. paper,” shall be added to such political  
27 designation.

“If a candidate shall receive the nomination of more than  
29 one party or more than one political designation for the  
30 same office, he may, within the seventy-two hours next  
31 succeeding five o'clock of the last day fixed for the filing of  
32 nomination papers, by a writing delivered to the officer or  
33 board required by law to prepare the official ballot, direct  
34 in what order the several nominations or political designa-  
35 tions shall be added to his name upon the official ballot;  
36 and such directions shall be followed by the said officer or  
37 board. If, during said time, said candidate shall neglect

38 to direct in writing as aforesaid, then said officer or board  
39 shall add said nominations or political designations to the  
40 name of said candidate upon the official ballot in such order  
41 as said officer or board shall determine.

“The names of candidates for every office, except the names  
43 of candidates for presidential electors, shall be arranged  
44 under the designation of the office in alphabetical order  
45 according to the surnames; but the names of candidates  
46 for the same office but for different terms of service therein  
47 shall be arranged in groups according to the length of their  
48 respective terms. Blank spaces shall be left at the end of  
49 the list of candidates for each different office, equal to the  
50 number to be elected thereto, in which the voter may insert  
51 the name of any person not printed on the ballot for whom  
52 he desires to vote for such office. If the approval of a con-  
53 stitutional amendment or any other question is submitted  
54 to the voters, it shall be printed on the ballot after the names  
55 of the candidates.

“Ballots shall be so printed as to give to each voter an  
57 opportunity to designate by a cross (X) in a square at the  
58 right of the name and designation of each candidate, and  
59 at the right of each question, his choice of candidates and  
60 his answer to such question; and upon the ballots may be  
61 printed such directions as will aid the voter; for example,  
62 “vote for one,” “vote for two,” “yes,” “no,” and the like.

“The ballot shall not be less than four inches in width and  
64 not less than six inches in length. Before distribution the

65 ballots shall be so folded in marked creases that their width  
66 and length when folded shall be uniform. On the back and  
67 outside of each ballot, when folded, shall be printed the  
68 words, "Official ballot for," followed by the designation of  
69 the polling place for which the ballot is prepared, the date  
70 of the election and a facsimile of the signature of the  
71 secretary of State or city clerk who has caused the ballot  
72 to be printed. Except as otherwise herein provided, ballots  
73 shall be printed upon clean white paper without any dis-  
74 tinguishing mark or figures thereon.'

Sect. 2. Said chapter six of the Revised Statutes is fur-  
2 ther amended by striking out section twenty-four and insert-  
3 ing in place thereof the following:

'Section 24. On receipt of his ballot the voter shall forth-  
5 with, and without leaving the enclosed space, retire alone  
6 to one of the voting shelves or compartments so provided  
7 and shall, except in the case of voting for presidential  
8 electors, prepare his ballot by making a cross (X) in the  
9 square at the right of the name of each candidate for whom  
10 he intends to vote or by inserting the name of such candi-  
11 date in the space provided therefor and making a cross in  
12 the square at the right; and, upon a question submitted to  
13 the vote of the people, by making a cross in the square at  
14 the right of the answer which he intends to give.

'A voter may vote for an entire group of candidates for  
16 presidential electors by making a cross (X) in the square  
17 at the right of the party or political designation immediately

18 above such group. If a voter does not intend to vote for  
19 any one candidate in the group, he may erase his name, and  
20 the cross shall count as a vote for each of the other can-  
21 didates in such group. If the voter desires to vote for  
22 another person in place of a candidate whose name he has  
23 erased, he may insert his name in one of the blank spaces  
24 and make a cross in the square at the right thereof. A  
25 voter who does not mark for any group of candidates may  
26 vote for candidates for electors, up to the number to be  
27 elected, by inserting names in the blank spaces at the end  
28 of the groups of electors and marking a cross in the square  
29 at the right of each name so inserted.'

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE,

January 7, 1909.

Presented by Mr. LOONEY of Cumberland, and on motion of same  
Senator laid on table for printing pending reference to Committee on  
Judiciary.

F. G. FARRINGTON, *Secretary*.