

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

No. 144

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to amend Chapter Six of the Revised Statutes as it was amended by Chapter Sixty-one of the Public Laws of nineteen hundred and seven, in relation to the appointment of Election Clerks.

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

Section twenty-one of chapter six of the Revised Statutes 2 as amended by chapter sixty-one of the Public Laws of nine- 3 teen hundred and seven, is hereby amended by inserting after 4 the word "determine" as divided between the thirty-second 5 and thirty-third lines of said section, the words "And on the 6 recommendation of the political party committee of any other 7 party represented on the official ballot, said municipal offi- 8 cers shall appoint one such election clerk in each polling

9 place for such political party who shall be qualified for the
10 performance of his duties in like manner as the clerks of the
11 two before mentioned parties, shall hold office for a like
12 term or for such part thereof as the party for which he is
13 appointed maintains its right to be represented upon the
14 official ballot, and who during said term shall have like
15 rights and duties with the before mentioned clerks to be
16 present at and witness the counting of votes, and shall serve
17 with or without compensation as the municipal officers in any
18 case may deem advisable, vacancies occurring in case of said
19 clerks to be filled as in case of other clerks herein mentioned,
20 so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

‘Section 21. The municipal officers of cities, towns and
22 plantations voting in accordance with the provisions of this
23 chapter, shall biennially in the month of May appoint clerks
24 for each polling place; and such municipal officers shall ap-
25 point as such clerks such persons as shall be recommended
26 for such appointment by the several political party commit-
27 tees of the several cities, towns or plantations, representing
28 the two political parties, which at the gubernatorial election
29 next preceding such appointment, cast the greatest number
30 of votes.

For each polling place in cities and towns of more than one
32 thousand inhabitants four clerks, and for each polling place
33 in plantations, and for each island ward of the city of Port-
34 land and for the island district of the town of Cumberland
35 and for every town of less than one thousand inhabitants,

36 two clerks shall be appointed. Said clerks shall equally
37 represent each of the political parties which cast the largest
38 number of votes in the State election next preceding their
39 appointment. Each of said clerks shall be sworn to the
40 faithful performance of his duties, and shall hold office for
41 two years from the date of his appointment, and until a suc-
42 cessor is appointed, and qualified, or he vacates the office.
43 Vacancies occurring in the office of election or ballot clerks
44 shall be forthwith filled by the municipal officers in towns
45 and plantations and by the mayors of cities in manner here-
46 inbefore provided.

Such election clerks shall attend at the times and places
48 designated for meetings in their respective wards, towns or
49 plantations for the election of any national, State, county,
50 city or ward officers, and for the determination of any ques-
51 tion submitted to the qualified voters of any city by lawful
52 authority, shall be present at and witness the counting by the
53 presiding election officer or officers of all votes cast in such
54 meetings, and shall receive such reasonable compensation
55 for each day's actual service as the municipal officers of their
56 respective cities, towns and plantations may determine. And
57 on the recommendation of the political party committee of
58 any other party represented on the official ballot, said mu-
59 nicipal officers shall appoint one such election clerk in each
60 polling place, for such political party, who shall be qualified
61 for the performance of his duties, in like manner as the

62 clerks of the two before mentioned parties, shall hold office
63 for a like term, or for such part thereof as the party for
64 which he is appointed maintains its right to be represented
65 upon the official ballot, and who during said term shall have
66 like rights and duties with the before mentioned clerks to
67 be present at and witness the counting of votes, and shall
68 serve with or without compensation as the municipal officers
69 in any case may deem advisable, vacancies occurring in case
70 of said clerks to be filled as in case of other clerks herein
71 mentioned.

No person shall be eligible to the position of election clerk
73 in any ward, town or plantation where he is a candidate to
74 be voted for.

Two of the clerks in each polling place, one from each
76 political party shall be detailed by the municipal officers to
77 act as ballot clerks. The two ballot clerks thus detailed and
78 appointed in each polling place shall have the charge of the
79 ballots therein and shall furnish them to the voters in the
80 manner hereinafter set forth.

A duplicate list of the qualified voters in each ward, town
82 or plantation shall be prepared for the use of the ballot
83 clerks, and all the provisions of law relative to the prepara-
84 tion, furnishing and preservation of check lists shall apply
85 to such duplicate lists.

Provisions in the charter of any city for the election of two
87 persons to assist the warden in receiving, sorting and count-

88 ing the ballots, are not affected by the provisions hereof;
89 but persons so elected shall be deemed election clerks for
90 that purpose; they shall equally represent the two political
91 parties which, at the State election next preceding cast the
92 greatest number of votes.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE,

February 5, 1909.

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

F. G. FARRINGTON, *Secretary*.