

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

No. 287

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, relating to the regulation and conduct of elections.

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

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

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10 have been duly made and not withdrawn in accordance here-

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

To the name of each candidate shall be added his party or
17 political designation expressed in accordance with section
18 five. No greater number of candidates for any office, bear-
19 ing the same designation, nominated otherwise than by nom-
20 ination papers, shall be placed upon the official ballot than
21 are to be elected.

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

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

38 said nominations or political designations to the name of
39 said candidate upon the official ballot in such order as said
40 officer or board shall determine.

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

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

The ballot shall not be less than four inches in width and
63 not less than six inches in length. Before distribution the
64 ballots shall be so folded in marked creases that their width

65 and length when folded shall be uniform. On the back and
66 outside of each ballot, when folded, shall be printed the
67 words, "Official ballot for," followed by the designation of
68 the polling place for which the ballot is prepared, the date of
69 the election and a facsimile of the signature of the secretary
70 of State or city clerk who has caused the ballot to be print-
71 ed. Except as otherwise herein provided, ballots shall be
72 printed upon clean white paper without any distinguishing
73 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 in-
3 serting 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 to
6 one of the voting shelves or compartments so provided and
7 shall, except in the case of voting for presidential electors,
8 prepare his ballot by making a cross (X) in the square at
9 the right of the name of each candidate for whom he in-
10 tends to vote or by inserting the name of such candidate in
11 the space provided therefor and making a cross in the square
12 at the right; and, upon a question submitted to the vote of
13 the people, by making a cross in the square at the right of
14 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 at
17 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 candi-
21 dates in such group. If the voter desires to vote for an-
22 other 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 voter
25 who does not mark for any group of candidates may vote
26 for candidates for electors, up to the number to be elected,
27 by inserting names in the blank spaces at the end of the
28 groups of electors and making a cross in the square at the
29 right of each name so inserted.'

REPORT A.

DIVIDED REPORT OF JUDICIARY.

The committee on Judiciary to which was referred the Bill, entitled "An Act to amend Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the regulation and conduct of elections," have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to Report that the same ought not to pass.

Per order,

HASTINGS
MONTGOMERY
WING
PETERS
BURLEIGH

REPORT B.

DIVIDED REPORT OF JUDICIARY.

The Committee on Judiciary to which was referred the Bill, "An Act to amend Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the regulation and conduct of elections," have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to Report that the same ought to pass. L.

Per order,

LOONEY
HERSEY
ANDREWS
BAXTER
DAVIES.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE,

February 25, 1909.

Report "A" committee on Judiciary, ought not to pass, on bill, "An Act to amend Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes relating to the regulation and conduct of elections," report "B," same committee, on same bill, ought to pass, tabled for printing on motion by Mr. LOONEY of Cumberland, pending acceptance of either report, and assigned for Thursday, March 4.

F. G. FARRINGTON, *Secretary*.