

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 159

House of Representatives, Feb. 5, 1913.

*Tabled pending reference to a committee, by Mr. Sherman
of Eden, and ordered printed.*

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT relating to Municipal Elections in the town of Eden.

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

Section 1. The town of Eden, Hancock county, Maine,
2 may at any legal meeting called by a warrant containing an
3 article for the purpose, accept the provisions of this act,
4 and when so accepted, all elections for town officers shall
5 thereafter be in accordance with the provisions herein pro-
6 vided.

Sect. 2. When any said town so accepts the provisions
2 of this act it shall at the same time or meeting determine
3 what officers, if any, not now required by law to be chosen

4 by ballot; and for this purpose may accept any existing act
5 providing a system or manner of electing any town officers.
6 All such matters shall be stated in the warrant calling such
7 meeting. No change shall be thereafter made in the offi-
8 cers to be chosen by ballot or in the number or terms there-
9 of except at a meeting held at least thirty days before any
10 annual town election.

Sect. 3. All warrants or town meetings for the election
2 of officers as herein provided shall specify the time of open-
3 ing the polls and the time when the same may be closed;
4 but the polls shall be kept open at least four hours.

Sect. 4. Nominations for candidates may be made at a
2 caucus, or by nomination papers signed in the aggregate for
3 each candidate by qualified voters of said town not less in
4 number than one for every fifty voters, who have regis-
5 tered for the last preceding state election in said town; but
6 the voters so signing shall in no case be less than twenty-
7 five in number. Each voter signing such nomination paper
8 shall add to his signature his place of residence with the
9 street and number thereof, if any; and each voter may sub-
10 scribe to as many nomination papers for each office as there
11 are members to be elected thereto and no more.

Sect. 5. All certificates of caucus nominations shall be
2 signed by the chairman and secretary of the caucus. Such
3 certificates and nomination papers shall, besides containing
4 the names of candidates, specify as to each candidate the
5 office for which he is nominated, and his place of residence,

6 with street and number thereon, if any, and may include a
7 designation of such candidacy, expressed in not more than
8 three words.

Sect. 6. Certificates of nomination shall be filed with the
2 town clerk of said town at least eight days previous to the
3 day of election, and nomination papers shall be so filed at
4 least six days previous to the day of election. The certifi-
5 cates of nomination and nomination papers being so filed,
6 and being in conformity with the provisions of this act,
7 shall be deemed to be valid unless objection thereto is duly
8 made in writing. Such objections or questions arising in
9 the case of nominations shall be considered by the board
10 of registrars of voters, and the decision of a majority of
11 the board shall be final. In case such objection is made,
12 notice shall forthwith be delivered to the candidates affect-
13 ed thereby. All certificates of nomination and nomination
14 papers when filed shall be open under proper regulations
15 to public inspection, and the town clerk shall preserve the
16 same in his office for not less than one year.

Sect. 7. All ballots for use in such elections shall be pre-
2 pared by the town clerk. Every general ballot, or ballot
3 intended for the use of all voters, which shall be printed in
4 accordance with the provisions of this act, shall contain
5 the names of all candidates whose nominations for any offi-
6 cers specified in the ballot have been duly made, and shall
7 contain no other names. The names of candidates for each
8 office shall be arranged under the designation of the office

9 in alphabetical order according to surnames. There shall
10 be left at the end of the list of candidates for each different
11 office as many blank spaces as there are persons to be elect-
12 ed to such office, in which the voter may insert the name
13 of any person not printed on the ballot for whom he desires
14 to vote as candidate for such office. Whenever any ques-
15 tion is submitted to the vote of the people of a town, in
16 accordance with a statute providing for such submission,
17 such question shall be printed upon the ballot after the list
18 of candidates. The ballots shall be so printed as to give
19 to each voter a clear opportunity to designate, by a cross
20 mark (x) in a square at the right of the name and desig-
21 nation of each candidate, his choice of candidates and his
22 answer to the questions submitted, and in the ballot may
23 be printed such words as will aid the voter to do this, as
24 "vote for one," "vote for three," "yes," "no," and the like.
25 Before distribution the ballots shall be so folded in marked
26 creases as to measure when folded not less than four and
27 one-half nor more than five inches in width and not less
28 than six nor more than thirteen and one-half inches in
29 length. On the back and outside, when folded, shall be
30 printed "Official Ballot for the Town of Eden," and the
31 date of election, and the signature or fac-simile of the sig-
32 nature of the town clerk.

Sect. 8. All ballots when printed shall be folded as here-
2 inbefore provided and fastened together in convenient num-
3 bers in packages, books or blocks, in such manner that each

4 ballot may be detached and removed separately. A record
5 of the number of ballots printed and furnished shall be
6 kept and preserved by the town clerk.

Sect. 9. There shall be provided in each town a set of
2 such general ballots, of not less than seventy-five for each
3 fifty and fraction of fifty registered male voters therein;
4 and likewise a set of such special ballots, of not less than
5 seventy-five for every fifty and fraction of fifty registered
6 voters therein.

Sect. 10. The town clerk shall provide full instructions
2 for the guidance of voters at such elections, as to obtaining
3 ballots, as to the manner of marking them, and the method
4 of obtaining assistance, and as to obtaining new ballots in
5 place of those accidentally spoiled; and shall cause the same,
6 together with copies of sections twenty-seven, twenty-eight,
7 twenty-nine and thirty of chapter four hundred and thirteen
8 of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and eighty-nine,
9 and any amendments thereof, to be printed in clear type,
10 on separate cards, to be called cards of instruction. He
11 shall also cause to be printed on tinted paper, and without
12 the endorsements, ten or more copies of the form of the
13 ballot provided for such election, which shall be called speci-
14 men ballots, and shall be furnished with the other ballots
15 provided therefor.

Sect. 11. At least four days prior to the election, the town
2 clerk shall cause to be conspicuously posted in one or more
3 public places a printed list containing the names and resi-

4 dences of all candidates to be voted for in such town, and
5 any designation as provided in section 5, substantially in
6 the form of a general ballot to be so used therein.

Sect. 12. The ballots, together with the specimen ballots
2 and cards of instruction printed by the town clerk as here-
3 in provided, shall be packed by him in sealed packages, with
4 marks on the outside designating the number of ballots of
5 each kind enclosed.

Sect. 13. Before the opening of the polls the selectmen
2 shall appoint three or more ballot clerks, and in case of
3 vacancies after the opening of the polls the moderator shall
4 fill the same. The ballot clerks shall be sworn and have
5 charge of the ballots and shall furnish them to the voters
6 in the manner herinafter provided.

Sect. 14. The town clerk shall, before the opening of the
2 polls on the day of election, deliver the ballots to the ballot
3 clerks, who shall receipt therefor, which receipt shall be
4 kept in the clerk's office. Before the opening of the polls
5 the town clerk shall cause the cards of instructions to be
6 posted at or in each voting shelf or compartment provided
7 for the marking of the ballots, and not less than three such
8 cards and not less than five specimen ballots to be posted
9 in or about the polling room, outside the guard rails. No
10 ballots prepared under this act shall be delivered to voters
11 until the moderator has been chosen in the manner now pro-
12 vided by the law. A duplicate list of the qualified voters shall
13 be prepared for the use of the ballot clerks, and all pro-

14 visions of law relative to the preparation, furnishing, use
15 and preservation of check-lists shall apply to such duplicate
16 lists.

Sect. 15. Except as herein provided, the election shall be
2 conducted as now provided by law. In case of failure to
3 elect any officers to be chosen as herein provided, the meet-
4 ing shall be adjourned certain, when such officers shall be
5 chosen as herein provided.

Sect. 16. Subject to the provisions of the constitution
2 this act shall take effect when approved.