

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 228

House of Representatives, Feb. 13, 1913.

*Tabled pending reference to a committee by Mr. Smith of
Auburn and ordered printed.*

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to amend the Primary Election Law and reduce the
number of ballots required to be printed.

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

Section 1. Section 26 of the Direct Primary Law enacted
2 by the people of Maine at an election held on the eleventh
3 day of September, 1911, is hereby amended by striking out
4 the word "twelve" in the eighth line so that the section as
5 amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 26. Except as modified or superseded by this act,
7 and so far as the same may be necessary for the purpose
8 hereof, and where not inconsistent herewith, the following
9 sections of Chapter six of the Revised Statutes with all acts
10 additional thereto and amendatory thereof, are hereby made

11 applicable to primary elections and all doings, therefor,
12 thereat, or thereafter, for the purposes thereof and of this
13 act: Sections eleven, thirteen, sixteen, eighteen, nineteen,
14 twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, thirty-six, thirty-seven, thir-
15 ty-eight, thirty-nine, forty, forty-one, forty-four, sixty-one,
16 sixty-two, sixty-three, sixty-four, seventy-five, seventy-six
17 to one hundred both inclusive, one hundred and eighteen to
18 one hundred and twenty-two, both inclusive, and one hun-
19 dred and thirty-three to one hundred and thirty-six both
20 inclusive.'

Sect. 2. Said Primary Election Law is further amended
2 by adding the following section:

'Sect. 31. There shall be provided or furnished by the
4 Secretary of State for each voting place or precinct at which
5 an election is to be held, not less than sixty of each party
6 primary nominating ballots for every fifty votes and frac-
7 tion of fifty votes cast by that party in said voting place or
8 precinct at the next preceding election, city, county, state
9 or national, corresponding to the election for which said
10 primary election is to be held and for which said ballots are
11 provided. If the city, town or plantation clerk deems that
12 more than the above number of ballots may be required by
13 any party on account of an increased enrollment, he shall
14 so certify, on or before the date for filing primary nomina-
15 tion papers, to the Secretary of State, who shall add the
16 number so asked for to the number of primary nominating
17 ballots sent to that city, town or plantation.'

STATEMENT OF FACTS AND SYNOPSIS GOING
WITH BILL TO "REDUCE NUMBER OF PRIMARY
BALLOTS."

The primary law in force last June required an average of twenty-one times as many ballots to be printed as were used, and in some cases, thirty-six times as many were printed and sent to the different towns.

This bill is intended to reduce the number of ballots required to be printed as far as it can reasonably be done. It provides as many ballots as will probably be used, and in case of any unusual enrollment, the city, town or plantation clerk can call for more ballots, which should meet any condition which may arise.

The total cost for ballots for last June primary was \$13,353.94. The cost under this bill will be about one-fifth, (1-5) or about \$2,700.00.

The tabulation below shows how the proposed law will work out for the different towns taken at random throughout the State.

	Primary Ballots. June 17th 1912.				Election Ballots Cast Sept. 9, 1912.				Ballots under proposed law.		
	Printed.	Used.			Rep.	Dem.	Soc.	Pro.	Rep.	Dem.	Soc.
		Rep.	Dem.	Soc.							
Auburn	21,240	489	497	9	1376	1315	89	21	1860	1800	300
Augusta	20,520	864	402	3	1204	1346	41	10	1700	1860	480
Bangor	27,360	1394	700	11	1843	2424	23	27	2220	2940	420
Portland	77,280	2907	2230	19	4735	5454	185	104	5700	6600	540
Houlton	6480	253	174	3	434	289	1	29	540	480	60
Topsham	2,280	105	29	0	185	186	1	1	240	240	60
Warren	3600	76	142	9	204	219	17	2	300	300	60
Cherryfield	2330	106	39	3	235	115	7	1	300	180	60
Ellot	2160	80	12	0	191	94		5	240	120	
Porter	1440	35	5	0	140	53	1	1	180	120	60
Shirley	720	16	13	0	17	36			60	60	
Strong	1080	45	15	0	119	59	2	3	180	100	60
Bristol	3600	91	14	1	225	267	6	1	300	360	60
Otis	360	11	6	0	13	17			60	60	
Athens	1440	52	29	0	97	112	3		120	180	60
Burnham	1440	34	16	0	85	99	1	1	120	120	60