

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 338

In Senate, Feb. 19, 1913.

On motion by Senator Morey of Androscoggin, vote whereby this Bill was referred to Committee on Judiciary was reconsidered, and on further motion by same Senator the Bill was laid on table for printing.

W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to amend Chapter five of the Revised Statutes relating to Boards of Registration.

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

Section 1. Section six of chapter five of the Revised
2 Statutes is hereby amended by inserting after the word
3 "years" in the seventh line thereof the words, 'unless sooner
4 removed for cause by the governor, by and with the consent
5 of the council, in which case a new appointment shall be
6 made in the same manner for the unexpired term,' so that
7 said section as amended shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 6. Such board shall consist of three members who
9 shall be residents and legal voters of the city where such
10 board is established; they shall not hold or be eligible to
11 any state, county or city office however elected or appointed
12 thereto so long as they shall continue members of said board.
13 One member of said board shall be appointed and com-
14 missioned by the governor, by and with the consent of the
15 council, for the term of four years, unless sooner removed
16 for cause by the governor, by and with the consent of the
17 council, in which case a new appointment shall be made
18 in the same manner for the unexpired term. The other
19 two members of the board shall be chosen one from the
20 political party polling the highest number of votes for gov-
21 ernor at the next preceding state election, and one from
22 the political party polling the next highest number of votes
23 for governor at said election. They shall each hold their
24 office for the term of three years; each shall be nominated
25 by the city committee of his own political party, and upon
26 due notice thereof in writing, the several mayors of said
27 cities shall forthwith appoint such persons, so nominated,
28 members of said board. If either or both of said political
29 parties, refuses or neglects to seasonably nominate a mem-
30 ber of such board and to notify the mayor of such city, said
31 mayor shall thereupon select and appoint a member of said
32 board from the political party so neglecting and refusing to
33 nominate, and said mayor shall so appoint in all such cases
34 of vacancy, whether caused by death, resignation, declina-

35 tion, neglect or refusal to act after being so appointed, or
36 by election or appointment to any state, county or city
37 office, or however such vacancy may be caused; but in
38 cases of necessity arising from the exigency of the public
39 business, the other two members may proceed therewith as
40 provided by this chapter until such vacancy shall be filled
41 in the manner provided herein. And if any member of
42 said board be absent or disqualified by sickness or other-
43 wise, such mayor shall upon notice thereof forthwith fill
44 his place by the appointment of some qualified elector of
45 said city of the same political party as the absent member
46 represents, to act in his absence.'

Sect. 2. Section eighteen of said chapter is hereby amend-
2 ed by inserting after the word "therein" and before the
3 word "or" in the sixth line thereof the words, 'or do not
4 appear in the lists submitted by the assessors under the
5 provisions of the tenth section of this chapter unless added
6 to the voting lists since said assessors' lists were filed,' so
7 that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 18. Said boards of registration shall prepare ward
9 lists of voters of such persons as appear to them to be
10 legally qualified voters, at least thirty days before any elec-
11 tion to be held for any purpose, by placing upon such lists
12 all the names which appear upon the voting lists for the last
13 preceding election, except the names of such persons as
14 have died or ceased to reside therein, or do not appear in
15 the lists submitted by the assessors under the provisions

16 of the tenth section of this chapter unless added to the
17 voting lists since said assessors' lists were filed, or shall
18 appear to said board to have otherwise become disqualified
19 to vote therein since said preceding election, but no new
20 name shall be added during such preparation; nor any other
21 correction or revision of said list, except the correction of
22 errors discovered to have been of the board's own making.
23 And a certified copy of all such lists made in accordance
24 with this section, shall be furnished to the clerk of such
25 city by said board at least thirty days prior to any such
26 election, and said clerk shall post said certified copies of
27 said lists of voters in their respective wards, at or near the
28 several voting places, customarily used as such in said cities,
29 at least twenty-seven days prior to any such election, pro-
30 vided; however, that in case of a failure to elect any muni-
31 cipal officer at any election, or any person elected declines
32 to serve, so that a special election is held to fill the vacancy,
33 or in case of a special election to choose representatives to
34 congress or members of the legislature, the board shall not
35 be required to prepare, or the city clerk to post a new list
36 of voters, and for this purpose said board shall be in session
37 the three secular days next preceding said election, the first
38 two thereof to be devoted to registration of voters, and the
39 last of said secular days to enable the board to verify the
40 correctness of said lists and to complete and close up its
41 records of said sessions.'

Sect. 3. Section twenty-four of said chapter is hereby

2 amended by adding the words, 'But before permitting a
3 person so challenged to vote the warden shall cause him to
4 state his place and date of birth; occupation; place of busi-
5 ness; whether married or single; if married, the name and
6 residence of his wife; how long a resident of the city, and
7 where his last vote was cast, which answers shall be reduced
8 to writing on blanks furnished for that purpose by the city
9 clerk, and signed by the voter, whose signature shall be
10 witnessed by two election officers representing two different
11 parties. The warden shall promptly return all such records
12 to the city clerk who shall keep them on file for public in-
13 spection for one year. Any failure to comply with the
14 provisions of this section shall be a misdemeanor and be
15 punishable as provided in section twenty-nine of this chap-
16 ter,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 24. Any qualified elector in said cities may chal-
18 lenge the right of any person to vote in any ward of said
19 cities at any election held therein and shall be given the
20 opportunity by the presiding officer thereof, to make such
21 challenge, and such presiding officer shall note the fact of
22 such challenge upon the voting list used in such ward. But
23 before permitting a person so challenged to vote the warden
24 shall cause him to state his place and date of birth; occu-
25 pation; place of business; whether married or single; if
26 married, the name and residence of his wife; how long a
27 resident of the city, and where his last vote was cast, which
28 answers shall be reduced to writing on blanks furnished

29 for that purpose by the city clerk, and signed by the voter,
30 whose signature shall be witnessed by two election officers
31 representing two different parties. The warden shall prompt-
32 ly return all such records to the city clerk who shall keep
33 them on file for public inspection for one year. Any fail-
34 ure to comply with the provisions of this section shall be
35 a misdemeanor and be punishable as provided in section
36 twenty-nine of this chapter.'