

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 163

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*House of Representatives, Feb. 12, 1915.*

*Ordered, That one thousand copies be printed and that the same be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.*

*Committee on Reference.*

*Presented by Mr. McCarty of Lewiston.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT to amend the charter of the City of Lewiston and to  
provide for a Police Commission.

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

Section 1. A board to be known as the Board of Police  
2 Commissioners is hereby established in and for the City of  
3 Lewiston, which shall have and exercise all the powers and  
4 be charged with all the duties relative to the appointment  
5 and organization of the police force of said city, except the  
6 marshal and deputy-marshal thereof, now conferred or im-  
7 posed upon the Mayor, the City Council and municipal offi-  
8 cers of said city by the charter and ordinances of said city

9 and the general laws of the state, except so far as the same  
10 are inconsistent with the provisions of this act:

Sect. 2. Said board shall consist of three (3) members,  
2 one of whom shall be the mayor ex-officio; and the other  
3 two of whom shall in the first instance be appointed by the  
4 Governor with the advice and consent of the Council. The  
5 term of the members of said commission appointed by the  
6 Governor shall be for two and three years respectively as  
7 may be designated by him at the time of said appointment.  
8 The full term of office of the members of said board after  
9 the expiration of the above mentioned terms of those mem-  
10 bers appointed by the Governor shall be for three years from  
11 the date of their election. All vacancies occurring after the  
12 passage of this act, through death, resignation, expiration of  
13 term of office or other cause, shall be filled by the City Coun-  
14 cil of the City of Lewiston by written ballot in joint con-  
15 vention held for that purpose, provided, however, that the  
16 elected members of said board shall not be members of the  
17 same political party, but shall be chosen from the two politi-  
18 cal parties polling the highest number of votes at the last  
19 preceding municipal election. Any vacancy occurring shall  
20 be filled forthwith thereafter. In the event that a member  
21 of the board is elected to the office of Mayor, his place on  
22 said board as an elected member thereto shall become vacant,  
23 and a new member shall be elected in his place as herein  
24 provided. No member of the board shall be eligible to any  
25 salaried position under the commission. Every member of  
26 said board shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of his

27 duties. The board shall annually appoint one of their num-  
28 ber to act as clerk, who shall be sworn and who shall keep  
29 a record of all proceedings, issue all notices, and attest all  
30 such papers and orders as the board shall direct.

Sect. 3. Said board shall have full power and authority  
2 to organize and establish the police force of said City of  
3 Lewiston, except the marshal and deputy marshal, and to  
4 appoint the members of said police force, and to remove the  
5 same for cause, and may make all needful rules and regula-  
6 tions for the government, control and efficiency of said po-  
7 lice force.

Sect. 4. The members of the police force of the City of  
2 Lewiston when said Board of Police Commissioners are  
3 first appointed, shall continue to hold their several offices  
4 unless removed by said Board of Police Commissioners.  
5 The present rules and regulations of the Mayor and Board  
6 of Aldermen for the government of the police, shall con-  
7 tinue in force until otherwise ordered by said Board of  
8 Police Commissioners. All police officers appointed by said  
9 Board of Police Commissioners shall have and exercise with-  
10 in the limits of said city all the common law and statutory  
11 powers of constables, except service of civil process, and  
12 all the powers given to police officers by the statutes of the  
13 state and the city charter, ordinances, by-laws and regula-  
14 tions of said city.

Sect. 5. Said board shall be provided with suitable rooms  
2 as shall be convenient and suitable for the performance of  
3 its duties, by said city and at its expense. All expenses for

4 the maintenance of said rooms, the pay of the police and all  
5 incidental expenses incurred in the administration of said  
6 police, shall be paid by said city upon the requisition of said  
7 board. The compensation of the police in said city shall not  
8 be diminished below the amount voted for said police for  
9 the year nineteen hundred and fifteen, without the consent  
10 of said Board of Police Commissioners. The members of  
11 said board shall serve without compensation.

Sect. 6. Said Board of Police Commissioners shall not  
2 increase the present membership of the police force, except  
3 as they may be authorized from time to time by vote of the  
4 city council. Said board shall have the same authority now  
5 vested in the appointing power, of appointing from time to  
6 time, special officers for special services.

Sect. 7. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this  
2 act are hereby repealed.