

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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SENATE

NO. 4

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*In Senate, Jan. 19, 1915.*

*Ordered, that five hundred copies be printed and that the same be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.*

*Committee of Reference.*

*Presented by Mr. Burleigh of Aroostook.*

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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 Chapter Six of the Revised Statutes, relating to the Regulation and Conduct of Elections.

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*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,  
4 and inserting in place thereof the following:

‘Sect. 10. Every general ballot or ballots 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10 have been duly made and not withdrawn in accordance here-  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 the same designation, nominated otherwise than by nomina-  
20 tion papers, shall be placed upon the official ballot than are  
21 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 same  
29 office, he may, within the seventy-two hours next succeed-  
30 ing five o’clock of the last day fixed for the filing of nomi-  
31 nation papers, by a writing delivered to the officer or board  
32 required by law to prepare the official ballot, direct in what  
33 order the several nominations or political designations shall  
34 be added to his name upon the official ballot; and such di-  
35 rections shall be followed by the said officer or board. If,

36 during said time, said candidate shall neglect to direct in  
37 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 accord-  
44 ing to the surnames; but the names of candidates for the  
45 same office but for different terms of service therein shall be  
46 arranged in groups according to the length of their respective  
47 terms. Blank spaces shall be left at the end of the list of  
48 candidates for each different office, equal to the number to  
49 be elected thereto, in which the voter may insert the name  
50 of any person not printed on the ballot for whom he desires  
51 to vote for such office. If the approval of a constitutional  
52 amendment of any other question is submitted to the voters,  
53 it shall be printed on the ballot after the names of the candi-  
54 dates.

‘Ballots shall be so printed as to give each voter an oppor-  
56 tunity to designate by a cross (X) in a square at the right  
57 of the name and designation of each candidate, and at the  
58 right of each question, his choice of candidates and his  
59 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  
69 of the election and a facsimile of the signature of the secre-  
70 tary of State or city clerk who has caused the ballot to be  
71 printed. Except as otherwise herein provided, ballots shall  
72 be printed upon clean white paper without any distinguish-  
73 ing 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  
11 in the space provided therefor and making a cross in the  
12 square at the right; and, upon a question submitted to the  
13 vote of the people, by making a cross in the square at the  
14 right of 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

17 at 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 another  
22 person in place of a candidate whose name he has erased,  
23 he may insert his name in one of the blank spaces and make  
24 a cross in the square at the right thereof. A voter who does  
25 not mark for any group of candidates may vote for candi-  
26 dates for electors, up to the number to be elected, by insert-  
27 ing names in the blank spaces at the end of the groups of  
28 electors and marking a cross in the square at the right of  
29 each name so inserted.'