

# 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-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

---

---

SENATE

NO. 93

---

---

*In Senate, Feb. 12, 1915.*

*Introduced under suspension of rules, referred to Portland Delegation and ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.*

*W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.*

*Presented by Mr. Murphy of Cumberland.*

---

---

STATE OF MAINE

---

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

---

---

AN ACT to provide for the establishment of a Board of  
Recreation for the City of Portland.

---

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

Section 1. A commission, to be styled the recreation  
2 commission for the city of Portland, is hereby established.

Sect. 2. The recreation commission shall consist of seven  
2 members, one to be selected by the park commission of said  
3 city from its own membership, the superintendent of the  
4 public schools, the chief of police and the commissioner  
5 of public works of said city, and three persons who shall  
6 be appointed by the mayor to serve, one for one year, one  
7 for two years, and one for three years, their successors

8 to be appointed by the mayor for three years, and one or  
9 more of whom shall be a female resident of said city. The  
10 mayor shall fill any vacancy occurring among the mem-  
11 bers who are appointed by him, such appointment to be  
12 for the unexpired term, and the park commission shall fill  
13 any vacancy caused by death, resignation, or otherwise, of  
14 its appointee.

Sect. 3. The members of the recreation commission shall  
2 serve without compensation, unless otherwise provided by  
3 ordinance of the city council, and from their own number  
4 elect a chairman, secretary and other necessary officers to  
5 serve for one year, or until their successors are elected.  
6 The recreation commission shall have power to adopt rules  
7 of procedure and prescribe regulations for the conduct of  
8 all business within its jurisdiction. A majority of the  
9 membership of the board shall constitute a quorum.

Sect. 4. The recreation commission shall have power to  
2 organize, manage and supervise the various playgrounds,  
3 recreation centers, municipal gymnasiums, floating baths,  
4 beach and bathing grounds, bath houses, winter sports,  
5 skating ponds either natural or artificial, municipal band  
6 concerts, outdoor entertainments, and other facilities for  
7 recreation of which it may be given charge as provided  
8 herein; and to plan and recommend by regular reports to  
9 the city council, and, after appropriate action by the city  
10 council, to create and develop an adequate and complete  
11 system of play places and recreation centers and related  
12 activities; and of its own initiation to contract with, em-

13 ploy and discharge supervisors, instructors and other nec-  
14 essary subordinates, and to order the payment, from such  
15 fund as is herein created, of the cost of maintaining the  
16 work of said commission in all its branches.

Sect. 5. The city council may, by ordinance from time  
2 to time hereafter, transfer to the charge of the recreation  
3 commission any lands or buildings now held by the city  
4 or hereafter acquired by it by gift, devise, purchase, lease,  
5 or license, and said city council may likewise transfer from  
6 the care of the park commission to the charge of the recre-  
7 ation commission any parks, parkways, grounds, play-  
8 grounds, ponds, beaches, buildings, or other properties, real  
9 or personal, adaptable for playgrounds and recreation pur-  
10 poses, and said city council may so transfer from said park  
11 commission to said recreation commission any portion of  
12 such parks, parkways, grounds, playgrounds, ponds,  
13 beaches, buildings, or other properties, real or personal,  
14 and by such ordinances determine the time, terms and con-  
15 ditions of said transfer; and said city council at any time  
16 and from time to time may amend, alter and appeal such  
17 ordinances, provided, however, that lands, buildings or  
18 other properties, taken as herein described from the care  
19 of the park commission, shall, when taken from the charge  
20 of the recreation commission, revert to the park commis-  
21 sion aforesaid or its successors; and the city council of  
22 said city may by ordinance set apart to the said recreation  
23 commission for its use, during part of each day, the whole  
24 or part of any street, highway or avenue now or hereafter

25 legally established therein; and the said city council is here-  
26 by empowered to prohibit the use of said streets, highways  
27 and avenues or parts thereof, so set apart, for the purpose  
28 of traffic during the hours specified.

Sect. 6. The city council of said city shall annually ap-  
2 propriate such sum of money as it may deem necessary for  
3 the improvement, development, maintenance and operation  
4 of the work of said recreation commission, and may from  
5 time to time appropriate such additional funds as may be  
6 necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

Sect. 7. The recreation commission may in its discretion  
2 take temporary charge of any grounds, places, buildings  
3 or apparatus which any person or corporation may offer  
4 or permit the use of for playground and recreation activi-  
5 ties.

Sect. 8. The recreation commission, when authorized so  
2 to do by ordinance of the city council, may assume tem-  
3 porary charge of public school playgrounds and buildings,  
4 or parts thereof, for any of its purposes and during any  
5 periods of time which will not interfere with regular use  
6 of the same for school purposes.

Sect. 9. This act shall not limit or affect in any way the  
2 authority conferred by law upon the park commission of  
3 said city to lay out and improve the public parks, prome-  
4 nades, squares, cemeteries and public grounds in said city,  
5 whether the same be now held or hereafter acquired by  
6 said commission, except that in laying out and improving  
7 the scenic development and landscaping of the playgrounds

8 and recreation centers which form a part of or are within  
9 the park system, said park commission shall, before pro-  
10 ceeding to lay out or improve said playgrounds and recre-  
11 ation centers as aforesaid, secure the approval of its plans  
12 by said recreation commission; nor shall anything herein  
13 restrict in any way the full discretion of said park com-  
14 mission in the execution of the terms and conditions of any  
15 trust or deed of gift. Said park commission may delegate  
16 for such time as it may determine, and the recreation com-  
17 mission may accept for its purposes, legal charge of any  
18 grounds, buildings, beaches, or bodies of water either nat-  
19 ural or artificial, now held or hereafter acquired by said  
20 park commission.

Sect. 10. The recreation commission shall annually make  
2 a report of its proceedings during the preceding year to the  
3 city council, with such recommendations for the develop-  
4 ment of playgrounds and recreation facilities, including  
5 additions thereto, as it may deem advisable.

Sect. 11. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith  
2 are hereby repealed.