

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 339

In Senate, March 12, 1915.

Report A from Committee on Judiciary that this Bill ought to pass was accepted and Bill ordered printed under joint rules.

W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to amend chapter six of the Revised Statutes, relating
to the regulation and conduct of elections.

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, and
4 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 candidates
9 whose nominations for any office specified in the ballot have
10 been duly made and not withdrawn in accordance herewith,

11 and the office for which they have been severally nominated
12 and shall contain no other names except that in case of
13 electors of president and vice-president of the United States,
14 the names of the candidates for president and vice-president
15 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 ing the same designation, nominated otherwise than by nomi-
20 nation papers, shall be placed upon the official ballot than
21 are 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
29 same office, he may, within the seventy-two hours next suc-
30 ceeding five o’clock of the last day fixed for the filing of
31 nomination papers, by a writing delivered to the officer or
32 board required by law to prepare the official ballot, direct
33 in what order the several nominations or political designa-
34 tions shall be added to his name upon the official ballot; and
35 such directions shall be followed by the said officer or board.
36 If, during said time, said candidate shall neglect to direct
37 in 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
43 under the designation of the office in alphabetical order
44 according to the surnames; but the names of candidates for
45 the same office but for different terms of service therein
46 shall be arranged in groups according to the length of their
47 respective terms. Blank spaces shall be left at the end of
48 the list of candidates for each different office, equal to the
49 number to be elected thereto, in which the voter may insert
50 the name of any person not printed on the ballot for whom
51 he desires to vote for such office. If the approval of a con-
52 stitutional amendment of any other question is submitted
53 to the voters, it shall be printed on the ballot after the names
54 of the candidates.

‘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 printed
60 such directions as will aid the voter; for example, “vote for
61 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 ballots 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 further
2 amended by striking out section twenty-four and inserting
3 in place thereof the following:

'Sect. 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 intends
10 to vote or by inserting the name of such candidate in the
11 space provided therefor and making a cross in the square
12 at the right; and, upon a question submitted to the vote of
13 the people, by making a cross in the square at the right of
14 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 an-
22 other person in place of a candidate whose name he has
23 erased, he may insert his name in one of the blank spaces
24 and make a cross in the square at the right thereof. A voter
25 who does not mark for any group of candidates may vote
26 for candidates for electors, up to the number to be elected,
27 by inserting names in the blank spaces at the end of the
28 groups of electors and marking a cross in the square at the
29 right of each name so inserted.'