

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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SENATE

NO. 412

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*In Senate, March 19, 1915.*

*Reported by Sen. Cole from Committee on Judiciary, and  
ordered printed under joint rules.*

*W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.*

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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 for the protection of life and property against loss  
or damage from steam boilers or steam machinery operated  
by incompetent persons in cities of over 35,000 inhabitants.

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

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the municipal officers  
2 of city over 35,000 inhabitants, annually, in the month of  
3 April or as soon as practical thereafter, to appoint an ex-  
4 aminer of steam engineers and firemen; said examiner to  
5 have had not less than five years practical experience oper-  
6 ating stationary boilers and engines.

Sect. 2. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons  
2 to operate a steam plant where the service of an engineer

3 or firemen is required, except boilers and engines used for  
4 agricultural purposes and those under the jurisdiction of  
5 the United States government.

Any person intending to operate a steam plant must first  
7 make application in writing to the city clerk, who will notify  
8 him in writing when to appear for examination.

Sect. 3. License shall be granted as follows:

First grade, horse power unlimited.

Second grade, limited to three hundred horse power.

Third grade, limited to one hundred horse power.

Special grade, limited to firemen in charge of boilers.

Engineers handling donkey, hoisting and steam roller en-  
7 gines, and to those in charge of direct low pressure heating  
8 plants. A special license shall state for what purpose such  
9 license is issued, and the location of the plant.

An engineer who has been granted a second grade certifi-  
11 cate may operate a plant as specified in the first grade, under  
12 the direction of an engineer who has been granted a first  
13 grade certificate, and an engineer who has been granted a  
14 third grade certificate may operate a plant as specified in the  
15 second grade under direction of an engineer who has been  
16 granted a second grade certificate.

Sect. 4. An examiner's fee of two dollars for every appli-  
2 cant shall be paid to the city clerk when application is made.

It shall be the duty of the city clerk to forward all appli-  
4 cations to the examiner with the fee for the same.

It shall be the duty of the examiner to examine all applicants in writing, and the original examination papers are to be kept on file by the examiner, and he shall issue under his hand a certificate in the following form if the applicant is of temperate habits and has suitable competency:

## STATE OF MAINE.

This is to certify that.....having made application to the city clerk for permission to take charge of and to operate a steam plant, and having produced evidence of his competency to act in said capacity as..... I have issued to him this certificate as approved by the Act of Legislature this.....day of.....

Said certificate when issued shall be filed in the office of the city clerk, and said clerk shall issue and deliver to said applicant a duly attested copy of said certificate, and the copy so issued shall be posted by the holder thereof in a conspicuous place in or near the boiler room of the boilers to be operated.

Sect. 5. The term of the certificate shall be one year from date granted unless revoked as hereinafter provided.

Sect. 6. When an engineer or fireman shall apply for a renewal of his license for the same grade, the presentation of the attested copy of the original certificate shall be considered sufficient evidence of his title of renewal; which certificate shall be retained by the examiner upon the official files as the evidence upon which the license was renewed, provided it is presented within one month after date

8 of its expiration, and the fee of one dollar paid unless such  
9 license has been forfeited, or facts shall have come to the  
10 knowledge of the examiner, which would render a renewal  
11 improper. In case of loss or destruction of applicant's  
12 copy, the city clerk may, by direction of the examiner, issue  
13 to the applicant a duplicate attested copy.

Sect. 7. When the examiner shall find that any person in  
2 charge of a steam plant is incompetent for the discharge  
3 of such duties, or by reason of negligence, intemperance or  
4 any other cause, ought not to remain in charge of such  
5 steam plant, it shall be the duty of said examiner to imme-  
6 diately suspend temporarily the authority of such person  
7 to act in such capacity until an investigation can be made,  
8 and shall cause a person qualified as provided in this act  
9 to be placed in charge of said steam plant. And said ex-  
10 aminer shall, as soon thereafter as possible, with the assist-  
11 ance of a trial board consisting of four engineers selected  
12 by the board of mayor and aldermen, cause an investiga-  
13 tion to be made, and inquire into the habits and qualifica-  
14 tions of the person; and if such person is for any reason,  
15 found to be incompetent or unsuitable to remain longer in  
16 charge of said steam plant, said examiner shall immediately  
17 cause certificate granted under the provisions of this act  
18 to be revoked and notice of such revocation to be filed with  
19 the city clerk; and thereupon said examiner shall give the  
20 person or corporation having control of such plant, notice  
21 of these findings. And if such person or corporation hav-

22 ing control of such steam plant shall, after receipt of such  
23 finding, neglect or refuse to cause said steam plant to be  
24 placed in charge of some person qualified under the pro-  
25 visions of this act, such person or corporation shall be sub-  
26 ject to the penalties provided in section eight of this act.

Sect. 8. Whoever violates any provisions of this act shall  
2 be punished by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars, and not  
3 less than twenty-five dollars.

Sect. 9. Any engineer who has operated a boiler and  
2 engine in any particular plant in Portland, Maine, for five  
3 consecutive years and who shall produce a satisfactory state-  
4 ment from his employer to that effect, shall be entitled to  
5 a license to operate the boiler and engine in this particular  
6 plant where he is employed, without examination, and upon  
7 payment of the fee prescribed for the granting of license  
8 by examination.

Sect. 10. It shall be the duty of the examiner to examine  
2 or cause to be examined such steam plants as are not insured  
3 with some reliable insurance company. The cost of such  
4 inspection to be paid by the owner of such steam plant,  
5 same not to exceed five dollars. The obstructing or refusal  
6 to allow said examiner to perform his duty in the inspec-  
7 tion of said plant shall be punishable as per article eight of  
8 this act.

Sect. 11. All engineers holding a license certificate of  
2 the city of Portland, Maine, under the ordinance enacted

3 and approved by the board of mayor and aldermen and  
4 council, Dec. 6, 1910, shall be exempt from this act until  
5 the expiration of above license. Any engineer holding such  
6 a license shall be granted a license of the same grade with-  
7 out examination or cost, unless he has been proven incom-  
8 petent by investigation of the trial board, in which case he  
9 may be obliged to undergo another examination before re-  
10 newing his license.