

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 554

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*House of Representatives, March 13, 1917.*

*Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and five hundred copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.*

*W. R. ROIX, Clerk.*

*Presented by Mr. Garcelon of Auburn.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT to amend sections twenty-seven and thirty-four of chapter eighty-five of the Revised Statutes relating to the power of sheriffs to appoint subordinate assistants.

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

Section 1. Section twenty-seven of chapter eighty-five of 2 the revised statutes is hereby amended by inserting after 3 the word "responsible" in the fifth line thereof the follow- 4 ing, 'which shall include the employment of such assistants 5 as may be necessary for the proper treatment and preven- 6 tion of disease of all prisoners in his custody,' so that said 7 section as amended shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 27. The sheriff has the custody and charge of the  
2 jail in his county, and of all prisoners therein, and shall  
3 keep it himself, or by his deputy, as jailer, master or keeper,  
4 for whom he is responsible. The jailer, master or keeper  
5 shall appoint all subordinate assistants and employees for  
6 whom he is responsible, which shall include the appointment  
7 of such assistants as may be necessary for the proper treat-  
8 ment and prevention of disease of all prisoners in his cus-  
9 tody, and the pay of whom, including the jailer, shall be  
10 fixed by the county commissioners, and paid by their several  
11 counties, except when otherwise provided by law.’

Sect. 2. Section thirty-four of chapter eighty-five of the  
2 revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the words,  
3 “subject to the approval of the county commissioners” in  
4 the fourteenth line thereof, so that said section as amended  
5 shall read as follows:

‘The county commissioners of the several counties shall,  
2 without extra charge or commission to themselves or to any  
3 other person, procure all necessary supplies, including neces-  
4 sary food, fuel, bedding and clothing for the jails and the  
5 prisoners therein to be furnished and purchased under their  
6 direction and at the expense of the counties. No county  
7 commissioner shall be interested directly or indirectly in the  
8 purchase of any such supplies or in any contract therefor  
9 made by the board of which and while he is a member there-  
10 of, and all contracts made in violation hereof are void. A  
11 suitable person shall be employed to prepare the food of the

12 prisoners in each county at the expense of the county, and  
13 the service of the food to the prisoners shall be under the  
14 general direction of the jailer, master or keeper. The per-  
15 son employed to prepare the food of the prisoners shall be  
16 appointed by the sheriff in each county. The county com-  
17 missioners may at any time direct specific rations or articles  
18 of food, clothing, soap, fuel or other necessaries to be fur-  
19 nished and served to the prisoners. The bills and accounts  
20 for supplies furnished and the items of expense incurred in  
21 preparing and serving the same shall be audited quarterly  
22 by some competent person appointed by one of the judges  
23 of the supreme judicial court and paid by the county treas-  
24 urer. For services in auditing said account said judge shall  
25 allow reasonable compensation to be paid from the county  
26 treasury.'