

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 570

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*House of Representatives, March 15, 1917.*

*Printed under joint rules.*

*W. R. ROIX, Clerk.*

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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 eighteen to twenty-three inclusive,  
of chapter eighteen, and section fifty-three of chapter one  
hundred seventeen, of the Revised Statutes, all relating to  
the Board of Registration of Nurses.

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

Section 1. Section eighteen of chapter eighteen of the Re-  
vised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out all of said  
section and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sect. 18. The Governor, with the advice and consent of  
the council shall appoint a Board of Registration of Nurses,  
consisting of five nurses, all of whom shall be residents of  
the state and engaged in professional work. They shall

5 have been graduated each from a different training school;  
6 shall have had at least five years' experience from date of  
7 graduation in professional nursing of the sick, and at least  
8 two years' experience from date of graduation in teaching  
9 nurses. They shall be registered under the provisions of  
10 sections twenty and twenty-one of this chapter and with the  
11 exception of those who registered under said section twenty-  
12 one shall have the same qualifications as are required for reg-  
13 istration under section twenty. Nothing herein contained  
14 shall be construed as in any way affecting the term of office  
15 of any of the present members of the Board.

Upon the expiration of the term of office of any member of  
2 said board, the Governor shall appoint a successor who shall  
3 hold office for three years. The said appointment shall be  
4 made from a list of six eligible candidates, selected at a  
5 meeting of the Maine State Nurses Association and sub-  
6 mitted to the Governor not less than thirty days before the  
7 time of appointment.

Any vacancy occurring on said board shall be filled for the  
2 unexpired term by appointment to be made by the Governor  
3 from like nominations to be furnished by the said Associa-  
4 tion. If said nominations in either case are not submitted  
5 within thirty days after the vacancy occurs the Governor  
6 may appoint to fill such vacancy such person, qualified as  
7 aforesaid, as to him seems best.

Any member of said board may be removed from office for

2 cause by the Governor with the advice and consent of the  
3 council.

On request of said board the superintendent of public  
2 buildings shall provide a suitable room in the State House  
3 for its meetings.'

Sect. 2. Section nineteen of said chapter eighteen is here-  
2 by amended by inserting after the first sentence in said sec-  
3 tion the words, 'It shall also elect one of its members as in-  
4 spector of training schools for nurses.' Also by striking out  
5 the words, "special meetings shall be called upon request of  
6 any two members" in the 7th and 8th lines of said section  
7 and inserting in place thereof the words, 'special meetings  
8 shall be called by the secretary upon request of any two  
9 members,' so that said section as amended shall read as fol-  
10 lows:

'The board shall, at each annual meeting, elect from its  
2 number a president, and a secretary who shall also be treas-  
3 urer. It shall elect one of its members as inspector of  
4 training schools for nurses. The board may adopt a seal  
5 and pin, which shall be placed in the care of the secretary,  
6 and may adopt such by-laws, rules and regulations for the  
7 transaction of the business of the board and the government  
8 and management of its affairs, not inconsistent with the laws  
9 of this state and of the United States, as it may deem ex-  
10 pedient. Three members of said board shall constitute a  
11 quorum; special meetings shall be called by the secretary  
12 upon request of any two members. The secretary shall

13 keep a record of all meetings of the board, including a  
14 register of the names of all nurses duly registered under  
15 sections twenty and twenty-one, which shall be open to the  
16 public at all reasonable times; he shall furnish a certificate  
17 of registration to each of such nurses, which may be re-  
18 newed at the expiration of five years, upon payment of one  
19 dollar to the secretary of the board; the applicant for re-  
20 newal of a certificate shall be given at least three months'  
21 notice, by registered letter, of the expiration of said certifi-  
22 cate, and shall submit an affidavit showing him or her iden-  
23 tity. The board shall submit to the governor on or before  
24 the first day of January in each year, a general statement of  
25 the work of the board for the year preceding, including  
26 therein a statement of the number of applicants received  
27 during the year, the number approved, and the number re-  
28 jected.'

Sect. 3. Section twenty of said chapter eighteen is hereby  
2 amended by striking out the whole of said section and in-  
3 serting in place thereof the following:

'At each annual meeting and at such special meetings as  
2 said board may deem necessary to hold for that purpose,  
3 the board shall examine all applicants for registration, to de-  
4 termine their qualifications for the efficient nursing of the  
5 sick, and shall decide upon the qualifications of every such  
6 applicant and give notice of their decision within three  
7 months from the date of such examination. Notice of each  
8 meeting, whether annual or special, shall be given by publi-

9 cation at least one month previous to each meeting in such  
10 newspapers and nursing journals as the board may deter-  
11 mine. Application for registration shall be made upon  
12 blanks furnished by the board and shall be signed and  
13 sworn to by applicant. Any person twenty-one years of age  
14 or over and of good moral character who shall show to the  
15 satisfaction of the board that he or she has had at least two  
16 years' high school education or its equivalent and has taken  
17 a full course of not less than two years in, and graduated  
18 and received a diploma from a training school for nurses  
19 connected with a public or private hospital in the state, pre-  
20 sided over by a graduate nurse registered in accordance with  
21 this act and in which is given a general course of instruction  
22 of not less than two years in theory and practice of medical,  
23 surgical and obstetrical nursing in the wards, or in case of  
24 male nurses, of genito-urinary work instead of obstetrics, or  
25 has obtained such experience by not less than six months'  
26 affiliation or post graduate work, or is a resident of Maine,  
27 who has been graduated and holds a diploma from a train-  
28 ing school for nurses in another state, having the same  
29 qualifications as herein described, shall be eligible for such  
30 examination upon the payment of a fee of five dollars, to be  
31 deposited upon the filing of the application for examination.

The examination to be given such applicant shall be oral  
2 and written and of such a character as to determine the fit-  
3 ness of the applicant to practice professional nursing, and  
4 shall include the subjects of practical nursing, anatomy,

5 physiology, bacteriology, materia medica, medical, surgical  
6 and obstetrical nursing, or in case of said nurses, genito-  
7 urinary, instead of obstetrical nursing, dietetics, pediatrics,  
8 hygiene and any other subjects deemed by the board neces-  
9 sary to maintain proper standards for the profession. Any  
10 applicant passing said examination to the satisfaction of the  
11 board, shall receive a certificate of registration within three  
12 months of said examination.

The member acting as inspector of training schools shall  
2 inspect all schools for nurses in the state and shall report  
3 to the board such schools as shall provide courses of in-  
4 struction both practical and theoretical in the subjects men-  
5 tioned in this act, and such schools shall fulfill the qualifi-  
6 cations herein described.'

Sect 4. Section twenty-one of said chapter eighteen is  
2 hereby amended by adding after the words, "registration  
3 without examination," in the 10th line thereof, the words,  
4 'within one year of graduation,' so that said section as  
5 amended shall read as follows:

'Any resident of the state twenty-one years of age or over,  
2 and of good moral character, applying for registration with-  
3 in two years from the third day of July in the year nineteen  
4 hundred and fifteen, who shall, by affidavit or otherwise,  
5 show to the satisfaction of the board that he or she is a  
6 graduate of a training school for nurses, which gives at  
7 least a two years' course in a public or private hospital,  
8 where a general course of instruction is given, or that he or

9 she was, on said third day of July, a student in such a train-  
10 ing school for nurses, and afterwards was graduated there-  
11 from, shall be eligible for registration without examination,  
12 within one year of graduation, upon the payment of a fee of  
13 five dollars. The board may register in like manner without  
14 examination, upon payment of a fee of like amount, any  
15 person who has been registered as a professional nurse in  
16 another state under laws, which in the opinion of the board,  
17 maintain a standard substantially similar to that maintained  
18 in this state, and which extends a similar privilege to nurses  
19 registered in this state.'

Sect. 5. Section twenty-two of said chapter eighteen is  
2 hereby amended by striking out the whole of said section  
3 and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Said board, by a majority vote of all of its members, may  
2 cancel or suspend the registration of any person as a nurse  
3 who may be found guilty of neglect of duty or inefficiency,  
4 or of any act derogatory to the standing and morals of pro-  
5 fessional nursing, but before any certificate of registration  
6 shall be so revoked, the holder thereof shall be entitled to  
7 thirty days' notice of the charges against him or her, and to  
8 a full and fair hearing thereon.'

Sect. 6. Section twenty-three of said chapter eighteen is  
2 hereby amended by inserting after the words, "fine of not  
3 more than one hundred dollars," in the 9th and 10th lines,  
4 the words, 'and shall have his or her certificate revoked,'  
5 so that said section as amended shall read as follows:



‘No person shall practice professional nursing in this state  
2 as a registered nurse without having a certificate of regis-  
3 tration. A nurse who has received such certificate and pin  
4 shall be styled and known as a “Registered Nurse,” and no  
5 other person shall assume such title, use the pin, the abbrevi-  
6 ation “R. N.” or any other words, letters or figures to in-  
7 dicate that the person using the same is a registered nurse.  
8 Whoever violates any provision of the five preceding sec-  
9 tions, or wilfully makes a false representation to said board  
10 in applying for a certificate of registration, shall be punished  
11 by fine of not more than one hundred dollars, and shall have  
12 his or her certificate revoked; provided, that nothing in this  
13 section or in the five preceding sections shall apply to the  
14 acts of any person nursing the sick, who does not represent  
15 himself or herself to be a registered nurse. The board  
16 shall cause to be presented to the proper prosecuting officer  
17 evidence of any violation of this section or of the five pre-  
18 ceding sections, and may incur any necessary expenses in the  
19 performance of this duty, which expenses shall be paid out  
20 of the receipts of said board.’

Sect. 7. Section fifty-three of chapter one hundred seven-  
2 teen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by adding  
3 at the end thereof the words, ‘The inspector of training  
4 schools for nurses shall also receive four dollars a day  
5 while actually engaged in his or her duties as such,’ so that  
6 said section as amended shall read as follows:

‘The members of the board of registration of nurses shall

2 receive their actual necessary expenses incurred in the dis-  
3 charge of their official duties, and the secretary shall receive  
4 a salary to be fixed by the board, not exceeding two hundred  
5 and fifty dollars a year. The other members of the board  
6 shall each receive four dollars a day while actually engaged  
7 in attendance upon meetings of said board. The inspector  
8 of training schools for nurses shall also receive four dollars  
9 a day while actually engaged in his or her duties as such.'