

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 706

House of Representatives, March 29, 1917.

Printed under joint rules.

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Garcelon of Auburn.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to amend Section Thirteen of Chapter Seven of the Re-
vised Statutes Relating to Duties of Election Clerks.

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

Section thirteen of chapter seven of the revised statutes is
2 hereby amended by striking out the word "witness" in the
3 twenty-fourth and thirty-sixth lines thereof, and substituting
4 therefor the words 'assist in,' so that said section as amended
5 shall read as follows:

'Sect. 13. The municipal officers of cities, towns and plan-
2 tations voting in accordance with the provisions of this chap-
3 ter, shall biennially in the month of May appoint clerks for

4 each polling place; and such municipal officers shall appoint
5 as such clerks such persons as shall be recommended for
6 such appointment by the several political party committees
7 of the several cities, towns or plantations, representing the
8 two political parties, which at the gubernatorial election next
9 preceding such appointment, cast the greatest number of
10 votes. For each polling place in cities and towns four clerks,
11 and for each polling place in plantations, and for each island
12 ward of the city of Portland and for the island district of
13 the town of Cumberland two clerks shall be appointed. Said
14 clerks shall equally represent each of the political parties
15 which cast the largest number of votes in the state election
16 next preceding their appointment. Each of said clerks shall
17 be sworn to the faithful performance of his duties, and
18 shall hold office for two years from the date of his appoint-
19 ment, and until a successor is appointed, and qualified, or
20 he vacates the office. Vacancies occurring in the office of
21 election or ballot clerks shall be forthwith filled by the muni-
22 cipal officers in towns and plantations and by the mayors of
23 cities in manner hereinbefore provided. Such election clerks
24 shall attend at the times and places designated for meetings
25 in their respective wards, towns or plantations for the elec-
26 tion of any national, state, county, city or ward officers, and
27 for the determination of any question submitted to the quali-
28 fied voters of any city by lawful authority, shall be present
29 at and assist in the counting by the presiding election officer
30 or officers of all votes cast in such meetings, and shall re-

31 ceive such reasonable compensation for each day's actual
32 service as the municipal officers of their respective cities,
33 towns and plantations may determine. And on the recom-
34 mendation of the political party committee of any other
35 party represented on the official ballot, said municipal offi-
36 cers shall appoint one such election clerk in each polling
37 place, for such political party, who shall be qualified for the
38 performance of his duties, in like manner as the clerks of
39 the two before mentioned parties, shall hold office for a
40 like term, or for such part thereof as the party for which
41 he is appointed maintains its right to be represented upon
42 the official ballot, and who during said term shall have like
43 rights and duties with the before mentioned clerks to be
44 present at and assist in the counting of votes, and shall
45 serve with or without compensation as the municipal officers
46 in any case may deem advisable, vacancies occurring in case
47 of said clerks to be filled as in case of other clerks herein
48 mentioned. No person shall be eligible to the position of
49 election clerk in any ward, town or plantation where he is a
50 candidate to be voted for. Two of the clerks in each polling
51 place, one from each political party, shall be detailed by the
52 municipal officers to act as ballot clerks. The two ballot
53 clerks thus detailed and appointed in each polling place shall
54 have the charge of the ballots therein and shall furnish them
55 to the voters in the manner hereinafter set forth. A dupli-
56 cate list of the qualified voters in each ward, town or plan-
57 tation shall be prepared for the use of the ballot clerks, and

58 all the provisions of law relative to the preparation, fur-
59 nishing and preservation of check lists shall apply to such
60 duplicate lists. Provisions in the charter of any city for the
61 election of two persons to assist the warden in receiving,
62 sorting and counting the ballots, are not affected by the pro-
63 visions hereof; but persons so elected shall be deemed elec-
64 tion clerks for that purpose; they shall equally represent the
65 two political parties which at the state election next preced-
66 ing cast the greatest number of votes.'