

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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SENATE

NO. 13

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*In Senate, Jan. 18, 1917.*

*Referred to committee on Mercantile Affairs and Insurance and five hundred copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.*

*W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.*

*Presented by Mr. Bartlett of Kennebec.*

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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 for the Prevention of Fires by Better Construction of  
Chimneys.

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

Section 1. No person, firm or corporation shall erect,  
2 remodel or reconstruct in or near any building, any chimney  
3 or flue to be used for or in connection with any heating or  
4 ventilating apparatus or for any other purpose unless said  
5 chimney or flue shall be erected, remodelled or reconstructed  
6 in accordance with the provisions of this act.

Sect. 2. All chimney flues shall be full and uniform size

2 from beneath their capstone (top) to their foundation and  
3 built to a point at least three feet above flat roofs.

Sect. 3. All chimney flues used as smoke flues for convey-  
2 ing products of combustion from any stove, range, furnace  
3 or grate regardless of the fuel used whether it be coal, wood,  
4 coke, oil or gas, shall have an inside measurement of at  
5 least eight inches by eight inches and shall be built of  
6 incombustible material. If two or more gas grates, stoves,  
7 ranges or furnaces, or any combination of these, or any  
8 other fire or heat producing or ventilating apparatus are  
9 connected to one chimney flue, the chimney flue shall have an  
10 inside measurement of not less than eight inches by twelve  
11 inches.

Sect. 4. Metal flues are prohibited.

Sect. 5. Chimney flues in all buildings shall have walls at  
2 least eight inches thick, unless they are lined with fire clay,  
3 mortar or terra cotta lining for their entire height in which  
4 case, the walls shall be at least four inches thick.

Sect. 6. Every chimney containing more than one flue  
2 shall have a division wall between the flues at least four  
3 inches in thickness.

Sect. 7. Every flue of any chimney shall have a cleanout  
2 built solidly into the flue as the chimney is built, recon-  
3 structed or remodelled, and the cleanout shall be located in  
4 the cellar or basement of the building when the chimney  
5 is within the building if the building has a cellar or basement.  
6 Every cleanout shall be interlocked into the chimney and

7 shall be placed in the chimney at a height of from two to  
8 four feet above the floor line of the cellar or basement, and  
9 the chimney shall be filled with earth to this point and topped  
10 off with cement mortar. Every cleanout shall have a door  
11 of cast iron equipped with a locking device so that the door  
12 cannot be blown open by gas explosion in the chimney.  
13 Every door of every cleanout shall be asbestos cushioned and  
14 airtight.

Sect. 8. All thimbles used in the erection, reconstruction  
2 or remodelling of any chimney or flue shall be constructed  
3 of cast iron and interlocked into the chimney so that it  
4 cannot loosen with age, and be constructed so that smoke  
5 pipes entering them cannot pass into the flue beyond the  
6 inside of the thimble; and so that smoke and fire cannot  
7 escape from smoke pipe except into the flue; and every  
8 thimble shall be equipped with a device for locking the  
9 smoke pipe solidly into the chimney thimble.

Sect. 9. Whoever erects, reconstructs or remodels any  
2 chimney or flue in violation of the provisions of this act  
3 shall be punished by a fine of not exceeding twenty-five  
4 dollars for each violation of this act.