

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(NEW DRAFT)

EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 383

House of Representatives, March 24, 1921.

Reported by Mr. Warren from Committee on Public Utilities
and ordered printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND
NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-ONE**

AN ACT to amend Sections Six and Fourteen of Chapter 59
of the Revised Statutes of 1916, in relation to appointment
of steamboat inspectors.

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

Section six of Chapter 59 of the Revised Statutes is hereby
2 amended by striking out in the first line thereof the words,
3 "the governor with the advice and consent of the council"
3 and inserting therefor the words, "The Public Utilities Com-
4 mission," and by inserting after the word "removed" in the
5 fifth line of said section the words, "by said commission;"
6 so that said section as amended shall read:

‘Sect. 6. The Public Utilities Commission, shall appoint
2 two inspectors of steamboats, of suitable qualifications, one
3 of whom shall have a practical knowledge of ship-building,
4 and the other, of the construction and use of boilers, engines
5 and their appurtenances; they shall continue in office for five
6 years, unless sooner removed by said commission for good
7 cause, and may be reappointed at the expiration of their
8 term.’

Section Fourteen of Chapter 59 of the Revised Statutes of
2 1916 is hereby amended by striking out in the fifteenth line
3 thereof the word “governor” and inserting therefor the
4 words ‘Public Utilities Commission’; so that said section as
5 amended shall read:

Sect. 14. All vessels described in section five shall comply
2 with all the terms and provisions of sections five to sixteen
3 both inclusive, of this chapter, and with all orders, regula-
4 tions and requirements of the inspectors; and if any such
5 vessel is navigated without complying therewith, or without
6 the certificate of the inspectors, the owners and master sev-
7 erally forfeit to the state five hundred dollars for each of-
8 fense, half thereof for the informer, unless otherwise pro-
9 vided, for which sum the vessel so engaged is liable, and
10 may be proceeded against in a qui tam action by attachment
11 commenced within sixty days after the commission of the
12 offense, or said penalty may be recovered by indictment.
13 In case of damage by fire or by explosion of steam or by
14 collision, the inspectors shall forthwith investigate the cause
15 thereof, and if found by them to have been occasioned by

16 a violation of any of the aforesaid provisions, or of the or-
17 ders, regulations and requirements of said inspectors, they
18 shall so certify to the Public Utilities Commission, and to
19 the county attorney in the county where the offense was
20 committed, together with the names of the parties and wit-
21 nesses, and prosecution shall forthwith be instituted against
22 all parties liable. But if any such vessel is deprived of the
23 services of any licensed officer, without the consent, fault
24 or collusion of the master, owner or any person interested
25 in the vessel, the deficiency may be temporarily supplied,
26 until another licensed officer can be obtained; provided,
27 however, that if the owners and master of such vessel sea-
28 sonably notify the inspectors of the expiration of her certifi-
29 cate, and request a new inspection and certificate, and said
30 inspectors fail to make said inspection and issue said certifi-
31 cate, if the vessel is entitled thereto, such owners and mas-
32 ter are not liable for any of the penalties provided in this
33 chapter on account of navigating said vessels without a cer-
34 tificate of inspection.'