

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 25

House of Representatives, Jan. 31, 1923.

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

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Oakes of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend Section Nineteen of Chapter Five of the Revised Statutes as Amended by Chapter Sixty-nine of the Public Laws of Nineteen Hundred and Seventeen and Chapter One Hundred and Seventy-one of the Public Laws of Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-one Relating to the Duties of Boards of Registration of Voters.

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

Section nineteen of chapter five of the revised statutes, as
2 amended by chapter sixty-nine of the public laws of nine-
3 teen hundred and seventeen and by chapter one hundred and
4 seventy-one of the public laws of nineteen hundred and
5 twenty-one is hereby amended by striking out in line forty-

6 one the words "at said previous session" and the word
7 "erroneously" and by adding after the word "list" in line
8 forty-two the words 'though any error of the assessors or
9 said board' and by adding to the end of the section the
10 words 'in case any person is aggrieved by any order or
11 decision of said board the whole case, upon petition for
12 mandamus, shall be re-examined and determined by any
13 judge of the Supreme Judicial Court in said County, which
14 determination, however, shall not effect any election held
15 prior to said decision of said judge,' so that said section as
16 amended shall read as follows:

Sect. 19. In cities of over fifty thousand inhabitants said
2 boards of registration shall be in session on each of the
3 thirty secular days next prior to any election; on the first
4 eighteen of said secular days in open session from nine
5 o'clock in the forenoon to one o'clock in the afternoon, and
6 from three to five o'clock in the afternoon, and from seven
7 to nine o'clock in the afternoon, to receive evidence touching
8 the qualifications of voters therein and to revise and correct
9 the voting lists, and on the latter twelve of said secular days
10 in closed session to enable the board to verify the correctness
11 of said lists and to complete and close up its records of said
12 sessions; in cities of less than fifty thousand and over
13 twenty-five thousand inhabitants, said boards shall be in ses-
14 sion on each of the sixteen secular days next prior to any
15 election; the first ten days thereof in open session, and the
16 latter six days thereof in closed session, during the hours

17 and for the purposes as above provided ; in cities of less than
18 twenty-five and over ten thousand inhabitants, ten secular
19 days, the first seven days in open session and the latter three
20 days in closed session as above provided ; and in cities of
21 less than ten thousand inhabitants, six secular days, the first
22 four days in open session and the latter two days in closed
23 session. No name, except as hereinafter provided, shall be
24 added to or stricken from the general register of voters after
25 nine o'clock in the afternoon of the last of said days devoted
26 to registration as above. Said board shall not place upon
27 said voting lists during said revision of the same, the name
28 of any person who shall not personally appear before said
29 board in open session and request it, but nothing in this
30 chapter shall be so construed as to require any voter, whose
31 name is already upon any ward list and who afterwards
32 moves from said ward to any other ward in said city, to
33 appear personally before said board in order that his name
34 may be transferred from one ward list to another. On the
35 last of said secular days devoted to the completion of the
36 records as above provided, the sessions of the board shall
37 close at five o'clock in the afternoon, and certified copies of
38 said voting lists shall at that hour be delivered to the clerks
39 of said cities and receipts taken therefor. The wardens of
40 cities shall be governed by said revised and corrected lists ;
41 and no name shall be added to or stricken from said lists on
42 the day of election, except as hereinafter provided, and no
43 person shall vote at any election whose name is not on said

44 lists. No board of registration shall be answerable for any
45 omission of a name or residence from said voting lists or
46 for any error in the same, unless such name and residence
47 are correctly entered in said general register of voters; but
48 on the day of election said board shall be in session, and
49 shall give to any voter whose name has been stricken from
50 said general register or omitted from said voting lists
51 through any error of the assessors or said board, or in
52 whose name or residence as placed on said voting list a
53 clerical error has been made, a certificate signed by a
54 majority of the board, giving the corrected name and resi-
55 dence of such person, and directed to the officer presiding
56 over the election; such officer shall on receipt of such cer-
57 tificate, allow the person therein named to vote and shall
58 check his name on said certificate, and securely attach said
59 certificate to said voting list. In case any person is aggrieved
60 by any order or decision of said board the whole case, upon
61 petition for mandamus, shall be re-examined and determined
62 by any Judge of the Supreme Judicial Court in said county,
63 which determination, however, shall not effect any election
64 held prior to said decision of said judge.