

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

EIGHTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 335

House of Representatives, March 8, 1923.

Reported by Mr. Hale from Committee on Legal Affairs
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-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 Chap-
ter 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,
2 as amended by chapter sixty-nine of the public laws of nine-
3 teen hundred and seventeen and by chapter one hundred
4 and seventy-one of the public laws of nineteen hundred
5 and twenty-one, is hereby amended by striking out in line

6 forty-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 'through 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 justice of the supreme judicial court in said county, which
14 determination, however, shall not affect any election held
15 prior to said decision of said justice,' so that said section
16 as 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 touch-
8 ing the qualifications of voters therein and to revise and
9 correct the voting lists, and on the latter twelve of said
10 secular days in closed session to enable the board to verify
11 the correctness of said lists and to complete and close up
12 its records of said sessions; in cities of less than fifty thou-
13 sand and over twenty-five thousand inhabitants, said boards
14 shall be in session on each of the sixteen secular days next
15 prior to any election; the first ten days thereof in open
16 session, and the latter six days thereof in closed session,

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

44 no person shall vote at any election whose name is not on
45 said lists. No board of registration shall be answerable
46 for any omission of a name or residence from said voting
47 lists or for any error in the same, unless such name and
48 residence are correctly entered in said general register of
49 voters; but on the day of election said board shall be in
50 session, and shall give to any voter whose name has been
51 stricken from said general register or omitted from said
52 voting lists through any error of the assessors or said board,
53 or in whose name or residence as placed on said voting
54 list a clerical error has been made, a certificate signed by
55 a majority of the board, giving the corrected name and
56 residence of such person, and directed to the officer pre-
57 siding over the election; such officer shall on receipt of
58 such certificate, allow the person therein named to vote and
59 shall check his name on said certificate, and securely at-
60 tach said certificate to said voting list. In case any per-
61 son is aggrieved by any order or decision of said board the
62 whole case, upon petition for mandamus, shall be re-exam-
63 ined and determined by any justice of the supreme judicial
64 court, which determination, however, shall not affect any
65 election held prior to said decision of said justice. Said
66 justice shall have discretion in the taxation of costs.'