

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

EIGHTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 380

House of Representatives, March 14, 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 Provide for the Licensing, Inspection and Regu-
lation of Hotels and Private Lodging Houses.**

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

Section 1. The municipal officers of cities and towns shall
2 have authority to require by ordinance the granting of
3 licenses to lodging houses. The term "lodging house" shall
4 not be deemed to include a house where lodgings are let
5 to less than five lodgers, nor to the dormitories of chari-
6 table, educational or philanthropic institutions, nor is the
7 emergency use of private dwelling houses at the time of
8 conventions or similar public gatherings. The term "lodger"
9 shall not be deemed to include persons within the second

10 degree of kindred to the person conducting a lodging house.

Sect. 2. Licenses under this act may be issued by the
2 same persons issuing innkeepers' and common victuallers'
3 licenses, as provided in section one of chapter thirty-one
4 of the revised statutes, and shall be for the same period
5 as provided in said section. All innkeepers' licenses issued
6 after the passage of this act shall be expressed to be sub-
7 ject to the provisions of this act. No license fee shall be
8 collected for a lodging house license.

Sect. 3. Every person conducting any hotel or lodging
2 house as defined and designated in this act shall at all times
3 keep and maintain, or cause to be kept and maintained
4 therein a register in which shall be inscribed the true name
5 of each and every guest or person renting or occupying
6 a room or rooms therein. Such register shall be signed by
7 the person renting such room or rooms, or by some one
8 under his direction; and the proprietor or such hotel or
9 lodging house, or his agent, shall thereupon write opposite
10 such name or names so registered the number of each room
11 assigned to and occupied by each such guest, together with
12 the date such room is rented. The proprietor of such hotel
13 or lodging house, or his agent, shall also keep and preserve
14 a record showing the date when the occupant of each room
15 so rented shall quit and surrender the same. Such record
16 may be made a part of the register, and both shall be kept
17 available at all reasonable times to the inspection of any
18 lawful agent of the licensing authority. Any person who

19 violates any provision of this section shall be punished by
20 a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than
21 five hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than
22 ninety days for each offense or by both such fine and im-
23 prisonment.

Sect. 4. No person shall write, or cause to be written,
2 or if in charge of a register knowingly permit to be writ-
3 ten, in any register in any lodging house or hotel any other
4 or different name or designation than the true name or
5 names in ordinary use of the person registering or causing
6 himself to be registered therein. Nor shall any person
7 occupying such room or rooms fail to register or fail to
8 cause himself to be registered. Any person violating any
9 provision of this section shall be punished by a fine of not
10 less than ten dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars for
11 each offense.

Sect. 5. A license issued under the provisions of this act
2 or an innkeeper's license, may be revoked if at any time
3 the licensing authority shall be satisfied that the licensee
4 is unfit to hold the license. It shall also have the right to
5 suspend and make inoperative for such period of time as
6 it may deem proper all the aforesaid licenses mentioned
7 herein for any cause deemed satisfactory to it. The revo-
8 cation and suspension shall not be made until after inves-
9 tigation and a hearing, or after giving the licensee an oppor-
10 tunity to be heard, notice of which shall be left at the
11 premises of the licensee not less than three days before the

12 time set for the hearing. The licensing authority, as des-
13 igned in this act, is hereby specifically charged with the
14 duty of enforcing its provisions and of prosecuting all of-
15 fenders against the same.

Sect. 6. All licensed innholders and all licensees under
2 this act shall post in a conspicuous place near the register,
3 if required by the licensing authority, a notice to be fur-
4 nished by it containing the provisions of this act relating
5 to the entry of names in the register, together with the
6 penalties herein provided for their violation.

Sec. 7. The clerk of a court in which any person is con-
2 victed of a violation of any provision hereof shall forth-
3 with send a copy of the record of the conviction to the
4 licensing authority in the city or town where the offense
5 occurred.