

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

H. P. No. 1018

H. D. No. 262

House of Representatives, March 4, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Brown of Bethel.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Establish a State Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation and to Establish a Commission to Appoint Members of Said Bureau.

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

Section 1. A commission of three men comprised of the
2 governor, the attorney general and the secretary of state
3 to appoint the chief of the state bureau of criminal iden-
4 tification and investigation to serve during good behavior
5 and efficient service.

The chief shall be the executive head of the bureau and
2 shall appoint such number of assistants as he deems neces-
3 sary to enforce the provisions of this chapter but with the
4 approval of the commission or board of managers.

Sect. 2. The specific duties of the state bureau of criminal identification and investigation shall be as follows:

1. To keep on file in the office at the state house, Augusta, Maine, a complete and accurate record, of fingerprints, photographs and Bertillion measurements of all persons committed to any state institution for any offense.

2. To keep a complete and accurate record of offenses committed, location, disposition, etc., of all offenders.

3. To maintain a corps of first-class investigators to be on call at any time to thoroughly investigate any crime committed, run down the clues and apprehend the criminal or criminals.

4. To cooperate so far as possible with the sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, constables, city marshals and deputy marshals and police officers of cities and towns in the detection of crime, the arrest and prosecution of criminals, and the preservation of law and order throughout the state.

Sect. 3. They shall have full authority of a sheriff in any part of the state to arrest without warrant and detain persons found violating or attempting to violate any penal law of the state until a legal warrant can be obtained.

Sect. 4. The salary of the chief of the bureau shall be three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per year for the first four years, after which the same shall graduate according to the amount of work to be done and results accomplished.

The salary of his assistants shall be twenty-five hundred

2 (\$2,500) per year for the same period with like graduation
3 if required.

The chief shall give bond in the sum of ten thousand dol-
2 lars (\$10,000) and the other members of the state bureau
3 in the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

The commission or board of managers shall act as such
2 without pay.

No member of the bureau shall receive any fee as a wit-
2 ness or for making an arrest or for attendance at court,
3 but shall be paid actual costs of arrest and actual expenses
4 of trial.

Whenever any fines or penalties are imposed by any court
2 in any proceeding in which a member of said bureau is a
3 complainant or a witness, the court before which the case
4 is tried may tax the costs for such complainant or witness
5 in the usual manner, the member of the bureau entitled to
6 same shall duly receipt for same when paid and immedi-
7 ately pay it into the fund for the expense of the bureau.

Sect. 5. No member of said bureau may be removed from
2 office except for lack of efficiency in office or bad behavior.

Such member shall be entitled to a hearing before the
2 commission and charges shall be proven against same be-
3 fore he may be removed.

Sect. 6. The bureau shall not consist of but the chief and
2 two assistants during the first two years after its inception
3 together with necessary office force of a stenographer and
4 one or two clerks.