

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(NEW DRAFT)

EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

H. P. No. 1064

H. D. No. 296

House of Representatives, Mar. 6, 1925.

Reported by Mr. Hamilton of Caribou from Committee on
Judiciary 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-FIVE

AN ACT to Amend an Act; To Amend Sections Eleven,
Twelve, Thirteen and Thirty-eight of Chapter Six of the
Revised Statutes, Relating to Primary Elections.

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

Section 1. Section eleven of chapter six of the revised
2 statutes is hereby amended by striking out all of said sec-
3 tion and substituting therefor the following:

'Sect. 11. Not less than seven days before the third Mon-
2 day of June preceding a biennial state election, the select-
3 men of every town, by their warrant, shall notify and warn
4 all legally qualified and enrolled voters to attend at the
5 regular voting places on the third Monday in June for the

6 purpose of voting for persons to be nominated by their re-
7 spective political parties as candidates to be voted for on
8 the second Monday in September the next ensuing. Said
9 warrant shall be in substance as follows:

PRIMARY ELECTION WARRANT

State of Maine, ss.

County of

To the qualified and legally enrolled voters of the town of
You are hereby notified that the primary election in this
2 town, of all political parties, entitled by law to nominate
3 candidates for the next election, will be held at
4 on Monday, June next, for the purpose of nom-
5 inating candidates for the following offices to be voted for
6 at the election to be held on the second Monday in Septem-
7 ber next, viz:

(Here follow the officers to be nominated.)

The polls will be open at twelve o'clock, noon, and con-
2 tinue open until nine o'clock in the afternoon, when they
3 close.

Voters not enrolled as members of a political party en-
2 titled to nominate candidates will not be permitted to vote.
3 Voters entitled to enrolment may cause themselves to be
4 enrolled at the polling places during the primary election
5 on taking and subscribing the oath required by law, but said
6 voters shall not be allowed to vote at any primary election
7 within the next six months following said enrolment unless
8 a new voter, or a voter enrolling for the first time in that

9 municipality.

Dated at this day of June, 19 .

.....

Selectmen of

Such warrants shall be posted in the manner required by
2 law for warrants for the state election. Like warrants
3 shall be issued by the mayor and aldermen of cities and the
4 assessors of plantations with appropriate changes and posted
5 in like manner. The meetings shall be opened and closed
6 as stated in the form of the warrant foregoing. In all such
7 warrants appropriate provisions shall be inserted calling the
8 attention of voters to opportunities for correction of lists
9 of voters by selectmen, municipal officers or board of reg-
10 istration in the manner required by law.'

Sect. 2. Section twelve of chapter six of the revised stat-
2 utes is hereby amended by striking out all of said section
3 and inserting the following:

'Sect. 12. Qualifications of voters; how determined. In
2 all such primary elections the qualification of voters shall
3 be determined by the voting list used at the municipal elec-
4 tions of said towns, cities and plantations, next preceding
5 the primary election and a list of the aforesaid voters en-
6 rolled by party designation as provided for in the preced-
7 ing section and section thirty-eight of this chapter, and no
8 person shall be allowed to vote in any primary election un-
9 less the name of said voter appears legally on said voting
10 list and enrollment list, except those who have become voters

11 within eight months preceding said primary election, and a
12 voter enrolling for the first time in that municipality who
13 shall be allowed to enroll and vote.'

Sect. 3. Section thirteen of chapter six of the revised stat-
2 utes, as amended by chapter one hundred and sixty-five of
3 the public laws of nineteen hundred and nineteen, is hereby
4 amended by striking out said section and inserting the fol-
5 lowing:

'Sect. 13. Primary election, how conducted. No person
2 shall vote at any primary election unless a legally qualified
3 and enrolled voter at such voting place, as required by the
4 preceding section. The selectmen of towns and planta-
5 tions, the warden of wards in cities shall be seasonably fur-
6 nished by the town, plantation or city clerk, or other official
7 charged with the duty of preserving the same, with duly
8 certified copies of all enrollment lists, arranging each politi-
9 cal party separately and its names of voters therein alpha-
10 betically. If not therein enrolled, any voter qualified by
11 law and this chapter as a legal voter at such voting place,
12 may be enrolled after subscribing and making oath before
13 a registration board of the district or precinct to the state-
14 ment as required by section thirty-nine of this chapter, and
15 the duties imposed upon the secretary of a caucus by said
16 section shall be performed by such registration board. A
17 suitable number of such statements shall be furnished at
18 each voting place by the city, town, or plantation; if the
19 number be insufficient, or none be furnished, the state-

20 ment aforesaid may be sworn to as aforesaid and return
21 thereof made in like manner as if the same had been sub-
22 scribed. At the polling places in the cities, towns and plan-
23 tations aforesaid each person applying to vote shall give
24 his name, residence, party affiliation and place of last en-
25 rollment, if any; if already enrolled six months before in
26 the precinct he shall be given a ballot of his party, his name
27 shall be checked on the enrollment list, and he shall be ad-
28 mitted to the voting booth and vote. If not enrolled and
29 then enrolled as hereinbefore provided, he shall be given a
30 ballot of his party, if a new voter or a voter enrolling for
31 the first time checked, and may vote as aforesaid. No bal-
32 lot shall be received containing any distinguishing mark
33 or figures thereon other than as herein expressly permitted.
34 Every city, town or plantation clerk, ward or election offi-
35 cer, or person voting, who shall wilfully violate any of the
36 provisions of this section shall be punished for each offense
37 by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprison-
38 ment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or by
39 both such fine and imprisonment.'

Sect. 3. Section thirty-eight of chapter six of the revised
2 statutes is hereby amended by striking out all of said section
3 and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sect. 38. Any person who is a legal voter may enroll
2 himself as a member of any political party by filing with
3 the board of registration of voters of the city, town or plan-
4 tation of which he is a legal voter a declaration in writing,

5 signed by him, substantially as follows: "I,
6, being a legal voter of,
7 hereby elect to be enrolled as a member of the
8 party. The following statement of name, residence, place
9 of last enrolment if any, and party of last enrolment if any,
10 is true." A new enrolment may be made at any time, but
11 the person making such new enrolment shall not vote in
12 any political caucus or primary election within six months
13 thereafter; providing, however, that this section shall not
14 apply to any person who shall have been newly registered
15 as a voter within eight months preceding the date of the
16 caucus or primary election; or any voter enrolling for the
17 first time in that precinct or municipality.'