

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

S. P. No. 473

S. D. No. 181

In Senate, March 10, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Speirs of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Relating to Compulsory Voting at Elections.

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

Section 1. At all elections, whether general or primary,
2 it shall be the duty of every person duly and legally quali-
3 fied to vote in town affairs to vote at such elections in the
4 manner provided by law.

Sect. 2. All such duly and legally qualified voters who
2 fail to so vote, shall pay a penalty of not less than one dol-
3 lar and ten cents, nor more than five dollars, which penalty
4 shall be fixed by the board of assessors of each city, town
5 and plantation, and shall inure to the sole benefit of the
6 city, town or plantation which collects such penalties.

Sect. 3. The said penalty shall be assessed by the assessors of each city, town and plantation, against such duly and legally qualified voters who fail to vote as aforesaid, and the same shall be collected at the same time and place and in the same manner as are poll taxes.

Sect. 4. Every citizen of the United States over the age of twenty-one years, who shall be ineligible to vote by reason of his neglect to register as a voter, shall be subject to the penalty aforesaid.

Sect. 5. All aliens who have resided within this state sufficiently long to have become citizens of the United States, but who shall fail to become naturalized, shall likewise be subject to the penalty aforesaid.

Sect. 6. The check list, or attested copies of the same, which were used in the polling places at such election shall be prima facie evidence in the determination of the voters who have actually voted and all those whose names are not checked thereon as having voted at such election, shall be deemed to have failed to do so.

Sect. 7. Said check list or copies thereof shall be delivered by the clerk of the city, town or plantation to the board of assessors thereof, five days subsequent to said election.

Sect. 8. The secretary of state shall furnish every city, town, and plantation as many copies of this act as there were furnished ballots at the next preceding state election.

Sect. 9. The clerk of each city, town and plantation shall cause to be mailed, at least ten days prior to the first elec-

tion following the enactment hereof, a copy of this act to
each voter whose name appears upon the check list at his
or her last address, so far as the same can be ascertained
by such clerk, and at each subsequent election to every new
voter whose name appears upon such check list but not
after the year nineteen hundred twenty-nine.

Sect. 10 Any city, town or plantation which shall fail
to comply with the provisions of this act, shall pay a pen-
alty of one hundred dollars, the same to be assessed by the
board of county commissioners of the county of which
said city, town or plantation is a part.