

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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E I G H T Y - T H I R D L E G I S L A T U R E

House Document

No. 31

H. P. 92

House of Representatives, Jan. 25, 1927.

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

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Hale of Portland.

S T A T E O F M A I N E

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

AN ACT Relating to Expenditures and Returns of Candidates
for Public Office.

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

Section 1. Section eighteen of chapter six of the revised
2 statutes is hereby amended by inserting the words 'and news-
3 paper advertising' after the word "traveling" in the thir-
4 teenth line of said section, and by inserting the words 'and
5 newspaper advertising' after the word "traveling" in the
6 sixty-first line of said section, so that said section as amended
7 shall read as follows:

'Sect. 18. Each candidate, so nominated, shall, with such
2 acceptance, send to the secretary of state the following re-
3 turn by him subscribed and sworn to:

RETURN OF EXPENDITURES

To the secretary of state:

I, _____ of _____, nominated for the office of
 2 _____ at the primary election held on June _____, 19____,
 3 on oath depose and say that the following is a true and
 4 perfect return of all expenditures by me made, or liabilities
 5 by me incurred for any purpose whatever, except my actual
 6 personal expenses for postage, telegrams, telephones, sta-
 7 tionery, express and traveling and newspaper advertising;
 8 in connection with my said nomination, or the procurement
 9 thereof, before, at, or since said primary election.

10 The total amount thereof was \$ _____

11 The aforesaid amount is made up of the following:

12 Printing	\$ _____
13 Clerk hire,	\$ _____
14 Hall rent	\$ _____
15 Soliciting agents	\$ _____
16 Miscellaneous	\$ _____
17 _____ Total	\$ _____

Of the above, the following are itemized:

PRINTING

Name	Date	Amount
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(The subdivision of clerk hire, hall rent and soliciting
 2 agents shall follow the foregoing form.)

MISCELLANEOUS

Name	Date	Amount	Purpose
------	------	--------	---------

I further depose and say that no person, firm or corpo-

2 ration has with my knowledge and consent paid any sum,
 3 or incurred any liability, other than to myself, or my politi-
 4 cal agent, to procure, or to aid in procuring, my nomination
 5 as aforesaid.

Dated A. D. 19 .

State of Maine

County, ss A. D. 19 .

Personally appeared and made oath that the
 2 foregoing return by him signed is true.

Before me,

Justice of the Peace.

If any statement in said return is wilfully false it shall be
 2 deemed to be perjury and shall be punished accordingly.
 3 No expenditures shall be so made, or liabilities be so in-
 4 curred except for the purposes named aforesaid in said
 5 return. The subdivision "miscellaneous" shall not exceed
 6 ten per cent of the total amount hereinafter permitted, and
 7 shall include no items not legitimate under sections one
 8 hundred and twenty-four to one hundred and thirty-two,
 9 both inclusive, of chapter seven; subsections (d) and (e)
 10 of section one hundred and twenty-eight of chapter seven,
 11 as applied to primary elections, are to be construed as if
 12 reading as follows:

'(d) of renting and furnishing rooms to be used by can-
 2 didates or their political agents, and for the reasonable en-
 3 tertainment and refreshment exclusive of alcoholic bever-
 4 ages, of political agent;'

‘(e) of compensating clerks and other persons employed
2 in candidates’ rooms and at the polls.’ Political agents of
3 candidates appointed under the provisions of said sections
4 shall, within fifteen days after the date of the primary elec-
5 tion, make to the secretary of state the return required by
6 this section of candidates, omitting only therefrom any sums
7 expended by them for the actual personal expenses of the
8 candidate for postage, telegrams, telephones, stationery, ex-
9 press and traveling and newspaper advertising; and the form
10 of the return shall be varied accordingly. Candidates who
11 are their own political agents need not make a separate
12 return in the latter capacity. Any political agent failing
13 to make return within the time required, shall be fined
14 twenty-five dollars for each day on which he is in default,
15 unless he shall be excused by the court, but such failure
16 shall not avoid or affect the nomination of the candidate.
17 The returns aforesaid shall be open to public inspection for
18 one year and then be destroyed. The failure of any can-
19 didate to file a return within the time required by section
20 seventeen, shall render his nomination void.’

Sect. 2. Section one hundred twenty-seven of chapter
2 seven of the revised statutes is hereby amended by inserting
3 after the word “traveling” in the fourth and fifth lines
4 thereof, the words ‘and newspaper advertising,’ so that said
5 section, as amended, shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 127. No person other than a treasurer or political
2 agent shall pay any of the expenses of any election, caucus,

3 or primary election, except that a candidate may pay his
4 actual personal expenses for postage, telegrams, telephones,
5 stationery, express, and traveling and newspaper advertis-
6 ing; but the provisions of this section shall not apply to
7 non-partisan election and ante-election expenses paid for
8 out of the public moneys of the state, or of any town, city
9 or other municipality.'