

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 46

H. P. 134

House of Representatives, Jan. 27, 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.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Provide for Jury Commissioners.

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

Section 1. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial
2 Court shall appoint in the several counties of the state, two
3 residents of each county who shall be Jury Commissioners
4 within and for their respective counties, who shall serve
5 during the pleasure of the Chief Justice, whose duty it shall
6 be to prepare a jury list, summon jurors for attendance at
7 the several terms of the Supreme Judicial and Superior
8 Courts in their county and to revise said list as often as
9 they may deem it necessary.

Sect. 2. The clerks of the several cities, towns and planta-
2 tions in said state shall, on request, send forthwith to said

3 commissioners of their county, a list of persons with their
4 full names, occupations and post office addresses, whom they
5 deem qualified for service as jurors. From the list received,
6 or such persons as may be known personally or by reputation
7 to the commissioners, said commissioners shall select per-
8 sons, who, in their judgment, are deemed qualified for jury
9 service, and the names of persons finally selected shall be
10 placed on a list kept by said commissioners. A copy of said
11 list shall be deposited with the clerks of courts for their
12 respective counties and shall, at all times during business
13 hours, be open to public inspection.

The list shall contain such a number of names of persons
2 qualified for jury service as the commissioners shall deem
3 necessary.

Selection of persons for jury service shall be based on their
2 mental, moral and physical fitness. Persons rejected by said
3 commissioners shall not be placed on said jury list for a
4 period of at least three years.

The commissioners may add names to such list as often
2 as may be necessary to maintain the number herein pro-
3 vided. They may also drop from the list names of persons
4 who, by reason of age, infirmity, death or other disability,
5 could not reasonably be expected to serve as jurors if called.

Sect. 3. On receipt of written or verbal notice from the
2 clerk or deputy clerk of courts of their respective counties,
3 designating the number of jurors required and date on
4 which they are to report for duty, the commissioners shall

5 forthwith select, by such method as will give a fair and just
6 distribution according to population, a sufficient number of
7 persons to perform jury service at the prospective term.
8 This selection shall be made with reasonable allowances for
9 supernumeraries and for unforeseen causes of inability to
10 attend. Summonses for those so selected to be prepared
11 by the commissioners and mailed by registered mail, postage
12 prepaid, to each person selected to his or her address. A
13 returned registered receipt shall be sufficient evidence that
14 the person or persons so selected have received the above
15 named summons. Additional jurors may in like manner be
16 drawn and summoned at any time during a term of court
17 by direction of the presiding justice, and they may be sum-
18 moned to attend at such time as the court may direct; and
19 in like manner shall grand jurors be selected prior to the
20 first term of the Supreme Judicial and Superior Court to
21 be held for the transaction of criminal business on or after
22 the first day of September annually, and grand jurors shall
23 serve at each criminal term during the year. When the
24 number of grand jurors is reduced by death or otherwise,
25 additional grand jurors may be selected and summoned
26 under direction of the court at any time.

Sect. 4. Any person summoned and in court as a juror
2 shall, if otherwise eligible and satisfactory to the Court, be
3 competent to sit as a juror and no verdict shall be attacked
4 by reason of any irregularity or informality in selecting or
5 summoning a juror. Any juror, who, after being notified,

6 unnecessarily fails in his attendance, shall be fined as for
7 contempt, not exceeding twenty dollars.

Sect. 5. The following persons are exempt from serving
2 as jurors, and their names shall not be placed on the list;
3 the governor, councilors, judges, clerks and deputy clerks of
4 common law courts, secretary and treasurer of the state, all
5 officers of the United States, judges and registers of probate,
6 registers of deeds, settled ministers of the gospel, officers of
7 colleges, preceptors of incorporated academies, physicians
8 and surgeons, cashiers of incorporated banks, sheriffs and
9 their deputies, coroners, counselors and attorneys at law,
10 county commissioners, county treasurers, constables, all per-
11 sons engaged in the unlawful traffic in intoxicating liquors,
12 or who are known to be habitually addicted to the use of
13 intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

Sect. 6. The Jury Commissioners for the several counties
2 shall each receive for their services the following sums per
3 year, and expenses, viz:—Androscoggin, \$100.00; Aroos-
4 took, \$75.00; Cumberland, \$125.00; Franklin, \$50.00; Han-
5 cock, \$50.00; Kennebec, \$100.00; Knox, \$50.00; Lincoln,
6 50.00; Oxford, \$50.00; Penobscot, \$100.00; Piscataquis,
7 \$50.00; Sagadahoc, \$50.00; Somerset, \$50.00; Waldo,
8 \$50.00; Washington, \$50.00; York, \$50.00.

Said salaries shall be paid by the respective counties in
2 monthly payments, on the last day of each month.

Sect. 7. Chapter one hundred and eleven, of revised stat-
2 utes of Maine, is hereby repealed.