

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

---

---

# EIGHTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

---

---

House Document

No. 73

---

---

H. P. 289                      House of Representatives, Feb. 3, 1927.

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

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Holman of Bangor.

---

---

## STATE OF MAINE

---

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

---

AN ACT to Provide for the Completion of the Vital Records  
of the State.

---

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

Section I. *Records not heretofore returned.* The director  
2 of the division of vital statistics of the state department  
3 of health shall, as soon as practicable after the passage of  
4 this act, ascertain from what cities, towns and plantations  
5 and for what years complete returns of births, deaths and  
6 marriages have not been made to the state or are not to  
7 be found among the records in his custody, and shall con-  
8 vey this information to the clerks of such cities, towns and  
9 plantations, together with suitable blanks upon which to  
10 make returns.

Sect. 2. *Transcripts of local records.* The clerk of each  
2 and every such city, town and plantation shall, under the  
3 direction of the director of the division of vital statistics  
4 of the state department of health, transcribe in full upon  
5 such blanks all records of births, deaths, marriages and  
6 publishments of marriage intentions in the possession of  
7 the city, town or plantation and of the churches situated  
8 in the city, town or plantation, not already returned, and  
9 shall transmit the same, properly certified, to the director  
10 of the division of vital statistics of the state department  
11 of health, within such reasonable time as said director of  
12 the division of vital statistics may prescribe; and for such  
13 services said clerk shall receive from the city, town or  
14 plantation, five cents for each record so transcribed, cer-  
15 tified and transmitted.

Sect. 3. *Failure to make proper returns.* In case the  
2 clerk of any city, town or plantation shall fail to transcribe  
3 and return all such records, as provided in this act, in  
4 accordance with the direction of the director of the division  
5 of vital statistics, or if any such records of a city, town  
6 or plantation shall remain incomplete after notice and de-  
7 mand upon the clerk thereof as herein provided, or shall  
8 in the opinion of said director, when returned, be inaccur-  
9 rate or otherwise unsatisfactory, then the said director of  
10 the division of vital statistics may proceed to procure such  
11 records in such manner as he may in his discretion see fit;  
12 and the expense thereof shall be paid by the respective

13 cities, towns and plantations so failing to make satisfactory  
14 returns, as aforesaid, upon presentation of proper accounts.

Sect. 4. *Filing records.* Each of the records returned  
2 in accordance with this act and each of the records of  
3 births, deaths, marriages and publishments of marriage in-  
4 tentions, now on file in the bureau or division of vital  
5 statistis of the state department of health shall be tran-  
6 scribed upon a separate card, and such cards shall be alpha-  
7 betically arranged and so filed as to be readily available  
8 for reference.

Sect. 5. *Copies of records.* When required for any law-  
2 ful purpose, uncertified copies of such records shall be  
3 furnished to applicants by the director of the division of  
4 vital statistics, free of all expense; and certified copies of  
5 such records shall be so furnished to applicants for a fee  
6 of fifty cents each.