

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# EIGHTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

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**House Document**

**No. 182**

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H. P. 874                      House of Representatives, Feb. 17, 1927.

Tabled by Mr. Robie of Westbrook for printing pending reference to a committee. 1000 copies ordered printed.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Robie of Westbrook.

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## STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT to Amend the Charter of the City of Westbrook.

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

Section 1. Section two of chapter two hundred and fifty-  
2 seven of the private and special laws of nineteen hundred  
3 and seven entitled, "An Act to revise the charter of the  
4 City of Westbrook," is hereby amended so as to read as  
5 follows:

'Sect. 2. The government of said city, with the admin-  
2 istration of all its fiscal, prudential and municipal affairs  
3 shall be vested in one principal magistrate, to be called the  
4 mayor, and in one council of five members to be called the  
5 city council, the members whereof shall be called aldermen.  
6 The city council shall be the assessors and overseers of the

7 poor of said city, and all repairing, alterations and building  
8 of school houses and of the insurance on the same shall  
9 be done and performed by said council with the approval  
10 of the mayor. Any vacancy occurring in the city council  
11 by the death, resignation or removal from the city of any  
12 member thereof, shall be filled for the unexpired term by  
13 the remaining members from the ward where it occurs, and  
14 for their services they shall receive an annual salary of three  
15 hundred dollars each, to be paid to them in quarterly pay-  
16 ments. The mayor of said city shall be the chief executive  
17 officer thereof, and he shall be the purchasing agent for  
18 said city, and shall buy all the supplies and materials for  
19 all the departments and boards of said city, including fuel,  
20 books and supplies for all the schools of said city, upon  
21 requisition to him made by the school committee, and for  
22 his services he shall receive an annual salary of twelve hun-  
23 dred dollars to be paid to him in quarterly payments, and  
24 he shall appoint in writing the city clerk, treasurer, and  
25 collector, and all three offices shall be held by one person,  
26 who shall also act as clerk for the mayor and for the city  
27 council and boards of assessors and overseers of the poor,  
28 and shall devote his whole time to said offices, and his sal-  
29 ary shall be established by the city council, and approved  
30 by the mayor, and all fees received by the clerk shall be  
31 accounted for by him, and paid over to the city.

The salaries of the mayor and members of the city coun-

2 cil may be changed by ordinance at any time after two years  
3 from the date when this act shall take effect.

For the purpose of providing for the reduction and payment  
2 of the bonded indebtedness of the city, the mayor and city  
3 council shall establish a sinking fund for the payment of  
4 the city debt, and shall annually appropriate a sum not less  
5 than five thousand dollars for this purpose, and under no  
6 circumstances shall any part of this fund be used for any  
7 purpose other than the reduction and payment of the debt  
8 of said city. They shall apply said fund to the payment  
9 of the outstanding bonds of said city to the best advantage  
10 of said city, and may purchase and cancel bonds not yet  
11 due, and any balance of said fund so unexpended shall be  
12 deposited in some savings bank or trust company in the  
13 name of said city until it can be used for said purpose. It  
14 shall be the personal duty of the mayor to see that these  
15 provisions are strictly carried out.

The general management and control of the public schools  
2 and of the school property including the school buildings  
3 and grounds, shall be vested in a school committee to con-  
4 sist of five members. All vacancies occurring in the school  
5 committee by death, resignation or removal from the city  
6 shall be filled for the unexpired term by the remaining mem-  
7 bers; and such vacancy shall be filled from the ward where  
8 it occurs.'

Sect. 2. Section four of said chapter two hundred and  
2 fifty-seven of the private and special laws of nineteen hun-

3 dred and seven, is hereby amended so that said section, as  
4 amended, shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 4. The municipal elections shall take place bien-  
2 nially on the second Monday in December. The mayor shall  
3 be elected from the citizens at large, by the legal voters  
4 of the city voting in their respective wards. One alder-  
5 man, one member of the school committee, a warden, a  
6 ward clerk and one constable shall be elected by each ward,  
7 being residents in the ward where elected. All of said offi-  
8 cers shall be elected by ballot by a plurality of the votes  
9 given, and shall hold their offices for two years from the  
10 first Monday in January, and until others shall be elected  
11 and qualified in their places. All city and ward officers  
12 shall be held to discharge the duties of their respective  
13 offices, notwithstanding their removal after their election,  
14 into any other wards in the city, but they shall not be so  
15 held after they have taken up their permanent residence out  
16 of the city.’

Sect. 3. This act shall be submitted for approval or re-  
2 jection to the qualified voters of the city of Westbrook at  
3 an election to be held on the first Monday of October, A.  
4 D. 1927, and if rejected it may be submitted to said voters  
5 again on the first Monday of October, A. D. 1928, and if  
6 adopted by a majority of said voters it shall take effect on  
7 the first Monday in January after its adoption, but the  
8 municipal election held on the second Monday of Decem-  
9 ber, preceding said first Monday in January shall be con-

10 ducted under the provisions of and in accordance with this  
11 amendment.

Warrants shall be issued for such election in the manner  
2 now provided by law for holding **municipal elections, and**  
3 suitable ballots shall be prepared by the city clerk contain-  
4 ing the words, "Shall the city charter be amended as pro-  
5 posed?" with two squares opposite each other, and over the  
6 one near the left hand side of the ballot shall be written  
7 the word "Yes" and over the one near the right hand side  
8 of the ballot shall be written the word "No," and those who  
9 are in favor of adopting this act shall make a "X" in the  
10 square under the word "Yes," and those opposed to adopt-  
11 ing it shall make a "X" in the square under the word "No."

The provisions of law relating to the preparation of voting  
2 lists for municipal elections shall apply to such election, and  
3 said election shall in all respects be conducted as municipal  
4 elections in said city are now conducted by law, and the  
5 results thereof shall be determined in the manner now pro-  
6 vided by law for the determination of the election of the  
7 mayor. If a majority of the valid ballots deposited as  
8 aforesaid shall favor the adoption of this amendment then  
9 this act shall take effect as herein provided and a true rec-  
10 ord of the result of the election shall be recorded in the  
11 records of the city council by the city clerk.

Sect. 4. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith,  
2 and all provisions of the charter and ordinances of said

3 city of Westbrook inconsistent with this act are hereby  
4 modified so as to conform with the provisions of this act.