

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. 257

H. P. 907 House of Representatives, Feb. 22, 1927.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Robie of Westbrook.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Creating a Department of Purchases.

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

Section 1. There is hereby created a department of state, 2 denominated the department of purchases.

Sect. 2. The governor, with the advice and consent of 2 the council, shall appoint a man to be denominated commissioner of purchases, who shall hold his office for a 3 term of four years and until his successor is appointed and 4 shall be subject to removal for cause by the governor and 5 council; he shall receive an annual salary, to be fixed by 6 the governor and council, and shall have authority to ap- 7 point any assistants necessary to efficiently carry on the 8

9 work of the department; an office in the state capitol, with
10 suitable furniture, stationery and other facilities for the
11 transaction of the business of the department, shall be fur-
12 nished. Said commissioner shall contract for all fuel, pro-
13 visions, supplies, materials and equipment, including sup-
14 plies and materials for the construction and equipment of
15 new buildings necessary for the use, management and main-
16 tenance of the state hospitals for the insane, Maine School
17 for Feeble Minded, State Prison, State Reformatory for
18 Women, State Reformatory for Men, normal schools, Uni-
19 versity of Maine, and for such other institutions in Maine
20 supported wholly or to the amount of at least fifty per
21 cent. of the cost of its maintenance by the state and for
22 any other buildings or institutions, now or hereafter, by
23 contracted, managed and maintained by the state, and for
24 all state departments and offices, except the state highway
25 commission. He shall also purchase necessary clothing
26 and wearing apparel for the inmates of the state prison,
27 reformatories and other institutions where the same is fur-
28 nished at the expense of the state. Any school, home, hos-
29 pital or institution receiving less than fifty per cent. and
30 more than ten per cent. of its annual maintenance cost
31 from the state, may make use of the facilities of the de-
32 partment of purchases in the purchasing of materials,
33 goods or supplies for the use of such school, home, hos-
34 pital or institution. The provisions of this chapter relat-
35 ing to the duties of the purchasing agent in construction

36 of buildings hereafter to be erected for the state purposes
37 shall not apply where such construction is under contract
38 authorized by law.

Sect. 3. When any of the institutions hereinbefore named
2 are in need of materials or supplies, requisition therefor
3 shall be made on said commissioner by the trustees or offi-
4 cials of such institution, authorized so to do, and said com-
5 missioner shall supply them; he shall be governed in his
6 purchases as to quantity, quality and needs required by
7 such trustees or officials of the said institutions and de-
8 partments; and when the amount to be purchased at any
9 time exceeds an expenditure of five hundred dollars, said
10 commissioner shall advertise for sealed proposals to fur-
11 nish such materials or supplies, by notice in two or more
12 daily papers published in the state. Such notice shall be
13 published at least five days successively, the last publica-
14 tion to be at least five days before the date on which such
15 bids are to be opened. Bids received shall be opened by
16 said commissioner and the contract for such materials or
17 supplies awarded to the bidder whose bid in the judgment
18 of said commissioner is for the best interests in the state.
19 Said commissioner may reject any and all bids and re-ad-
20 vertise, if in his judgment it is for the interest of the state
21 so to do. All bids shall, within twenty days after they are
22 opened, be forwarded to the state auditor, and shall be kept
23 on file in his office open to public inspection. In case a sat-
24 isfactory bid is not received and in any case where the

25 interest of the state demands, said commissioner may pro-
26 cure such materials and supplies without bids in such other
27 manner as the state auditor may approve in writing. It
28 shall be the duty of said commissioner to give consideration
29 and favoritism, insofar as possible, and within his best
30 judgment, to goods, materials or supplies which have been
31 produced, grown or manufactured in the state of Maine.

Sect. 4. Blanks for all requisitions, contracts and pro-
2 posals shall be of uniform size and style and shall be fur-
3 nished by said commissioner shall be in such form as said
4 commissioner may direct. All contracts made by said com-
5 missioner shall be made in duplicate and one copy shall
6 forthwith be forwarded to the state auditor.

Sect. 5. Said commissioner shall, before entering upon
2 his duties, execute a bond to the state with sureties to be
3 approved by the governor in the sum of twenty thousand
4 dollars, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties
5 of his office and for the rendering of a correct account of
6 the moneys and other property of the state coming into his
7 hands, and a certificate of his oath of office shall be indorsed
8 upon the bond. A domestic or foreign surety company au-
9 thorized to do business in this state may act as surety, and
10 when a surety company bond is furnished the expense there-
11 of shall be paid by the state.

Sect. 6. State officers, state institutions, boards and com-
2 missions mentioned in this chapter, and all officers, boards
3 and commissions having property belonging to the state,

4 shall, on or before the first day of August, in each year,
5 render an inventory to the commissioner of all such prop-
6 erty, and its value, on hand on the first day of July pre-
7 ceding, on such forms and in such details as said commis-
8 sioner directs.

Sect. 7. Said commissioner shall biennially report to the
2 legislature a detailed account of all contracts made by him,
3 the name of the party with whom and the purpose for
4 which they were made, and the amount paid on such con-
5 tract, and also shall render a detailed account of all sup-
6 plies, provisions, materials and equipment furnished the
7 several institutions, departments and officials mentioned in
8 this chapter. Said commissioner shall also include in such
9 report a full and complete inventory showing the true value
10 of all property belonging to the state at the several institu-
11 tions and state departments mentioned in this chapter, or
12 in his custody and under his control, on the first day of
13 July preceding the biennial session of the legislature.

Sect. 8. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply
2 to the military department.