

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# EIGHTY - THIRD LEGISLATURE

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Senate Document

No. 178

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S. P. 400

In Senate, Mar. 4, 1927.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Dwinal of Knox.

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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 Relating to the Crime of Arson and Punishment.

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

Section 1. *Destruction of dwellings or lives by fire.* Who-  
2 ever wilfully or maliciously sets fire to, or aids, instigates,  
3 incites, promotes or procures the burning of, any dwelling  
4 house, or any building occupied in part for dwelling or  
5 lodging purposes, and owned wholly or partly by himself  
6 or another; or any kitchen, shop, barn, stable, garage, shed,  
7 or other buildings adjoining thereto, owned wholly or partly  
8 by himself or another; or any dwelling house, or building  
9 owned by himself, whereby the dwelling house of another  
10 is endangered, shall be punished by imprisonment for not  
11 less than two nor more than twenty years; and whoever

12 destroys the life of any human being in consequence of such  
13 burning, shall be guilty of murder and punished accordingly.

Sect. 2. *Destruction of buildings other than dwellings.*

2 Whoever wilfully or maliciously sets fire to, or aids, insti-  
3 gates, incites, promotes or procures the burning of, any  
4 barn, stable, garage, shed or other building, not parcel of  
5 a dwelling house and owned by himself or another; or any  
6 office, shop, storehouse, warehouse, factory, mill, power  
7 house or other building owned by himself or another; or  
8 any meeting house, court house, schoolhouse, town house,  
9 work house, prison, jail, academy, college hall, public build-  
10 ing, monument or memorial; or any vessel, dock, bridge,  
11 lock, dam or flume of another, shall be imprisoned for not  
12 less than one nor more than ten years.

Sect. 3. *Destruction of property other than buildings.*

2 Whoever wilfully or maliciously sets fire to, or aids, insti-  
3 gates, incites, promotes or procures the burning of, any  
4 hay, grain, wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye or vegetable prod-  
5 uct, either growing, stacked in the field, or stored; or any  
6 tank of oil, gasolene, pile of coal, wood or other fuel; or  
7 any pile of planks, boards, posts, rails, lumber or standing  
8 trees or underwood; or any street car, railway car, auto-  
9 mobile or other motor vehicle; or any stocks, bonds or  
10 muniments of title; or any personal property of the value  
11 of twenty-five dollars owned by another person and not  
12 specifically named herein, shall be imprisoned for not less  
13 than one nor more than three years.

Sect. 4. *Burning to defraud the insurer.* Whoever wilfully  
2 or maliciously, with intent to defraud the insurer, sets fire  
3 to, or aids, instigates, incites, promotes or procures the  
4 burning of, any building, motor vehicle, merchandise, house-  
5 hold furniture, chattels, stocks, bonds, muniments of title,  
6 or personal property of any kind, owned by himself or an-  
7 other and insured by any person or corporation against loss  
8 or damage by fire, shall be imprisoned for not less than one  
9 nor more than five years.

Sect. 5. *Attempts to commit arson.* Whoever wilfully or  
2 maliciously attempts to set fire to, or attempts to aid, insti-  
3 gate, incite, promote or procure the burning of, any of the  
4 buildings or properties, mentioned as subjects of arson in  
5 sections one, two, three and four of this act, shall be pun-  
6 ished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or  
7 by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than two  
8 years.

Sect. 6. *Repealing clause.* Sections one, two, three and  
2 four of chapter one hundred twenty-one and section twenty-  
3 two of chapter one hundred twenty-eight, revised statutes  
4 of nineteen hundred sixteen, are hereby repealed.