

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 601

H. P. 1556 House of Representatives, March 1, 1929.

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

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. McCart of Eastport.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Create the Office of Commissioner of Decisions
and Laws and to Abolish the Office of Reporter of Decisions.

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

Section 1. The governor with the advice and consent of
2 the council, shall appoint a commissioner of decisions and
3 laws, who shall hold his office for six years, and until his
4 successor is appointed and qualified, and who may be re-
5 moved from office by the governor and council for cause.
6 He shall receive an annual salary of three thousand five
7 hundred dollars and his actual expenses incurred in the
8 performance of his official duties. He shall devote his en-
9 tire time to the duties of his office and shall be provided

10 with suitably equipped offices in the State House. He may
11 employ, with the consent of the governor and council, such
12 clerical assistance as may be necessary to properly perform
13 the duties of his office.

Sect. 2. The commissioner of decisions and laws shall
2 perform all the duties imposed and shall have all the author-
3 ity conferred by law upon the reporter of decisions.

Sect. 3. The commissioner of decisions and laws shall
2 perform the duties required to be performed by the secre-
3 tary of state as provided in the resolves of the legislature
4 approved June twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and
5 twenty, March eighteenth, eighteen hundred and forty and
6 March sixteenth, eighteen hundred and forty-two.

Sect. 4. The commissioner of decisions and laws after
2 final adjournment of each regular session of the legisla-
3 ture, shall cause cumulative tables to be prepared showing
4 what general statutes have been affected by subsequent leg-
5 islation in such manner as to furnish ready reference to
6 all changes in such statutes, and in addition thereto shall
7 make a complete index of all public laws passed subsequent
8 to the last revision of the statutes. The tables and index
9 so prepared shall be printed in the official edition of the
10 laws hereafter published by the state. The compensation
11 for the services herein provided for shall be fixed by the
12 governor and council.

Sect. 5. The commissioner of decisions and laws shall
2 cause the public laws passed at each session to be printed

3 within thirty days after the close thereof on extra sheets,
4 on good paper, in good, clear nonpareil type, by the pub-
5 lishers of each newspaper, and each printer who so pub-
6 lishes and distributes the laws to his subscribers within the
7 state, shall receive ten dollars, besides two dollars for every
8 hundred copies so distributed within the state.

Sect. 6. The commissioner of decisions and laws shall
2 during the periods between the regular sessions of the leg-
3 islature prepare revisions of the statutes and public laws
4 and report such a revision to the legislature when so re-
5 quested.

Sect. 7. The commissioner of decisions and laws shall
2 draft for state departments and members or committees of
3 the legislature such bills and resolves as they may desire.
4 No bill or resolve shall be printed as a senate or house
5 document until examined by the commissioner of decisions
6 and laws, and errors of form corrected and titles made to
7 truly and strictly indicate the subject matter therein. The
8 duties imposed by this section shall be performed under
9 the direction of the president of the senate and the speaker
10 of the house of representatives unless otherwise ordered
11 by the legislature.

Sect. 8. Section seventy-five of chapter eighty-two of the
2 revised statutes and all other acts or parts of acts incon-
3 sistent with the foregoing is hereby repealed.