

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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E I G H T Y - S I X T H   L E G I S L A T U R E

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Legislative Document

No. 171

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H. P. 630

House of Representatives, Jan. 31, 1933.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Burgess of Rumford.

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S T A T E   O F   M A I N E

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED THIRTY-  
THREE

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AN ACT Relating to the Tenure of Office of the Chief Engineer of the  
Fire Department of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation.

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**Emergency Preamble.** Whereas, the chief engineer of the fire department of Rumford is at present a political appointee, and

Whereas, the management of such an important public service should be out of politics, and

Whereas, the town meeting of Rumford Falls is held before the adjournment of the legislature, and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature these facts create an emergency within the meaning of section 16 of article 31 of the constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, now therefore,

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

**Section 1. Tenure of office of the chief engineer of the fire department; removal from office.** The chief engineer of the fire department of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation, hereafter appointed or elected, shall hold office continuously during good behavior unless incapacitated through physical or mental disability from performing the duties of his position, provided, however, that the majority of the board of assessors may remove the chief engineer for just cause and for reasons specifically given by the board ordering the removal.

Sec. 2. **Notice to persons in case of removal.** The person sought to be removed shall have notice and shall be furnished with the copy of the reasons required to be given in § 1 and shall be allowed a reasonable time to answer the same in writing. A copy of such reasons, notice and answers and of the order of removal shall be made a matter of public record of the fire department.

Sec. 3. **Appeal.** Any person removed in accordance with the provisions of this act shall have the right of appeal to the superior court.

Sec. 4. **Referendum provided for.** This act shall not be effective until the same has been approved by a majority vote of the inhabitants in said Rumford Falls Village Corporation qualified to vote in municipal affairs at any special or regular Rumford Falls Village Corporation meeting held before December 31, 1933. The town clerk shall present the question for approval in the following form: "Shall the Rumford Falls Village Corporation accept the provisions of the act relating to the tenure of the office of the chief engineer?" and the voters shall indicate by a cross placed within a square upon their ballot opposite the words "Yes" or "No" their approval or disapproval of the same.

Sec. 5. **Repealing clause.** All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency recited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.