

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)

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

Legislative Document

No. 482

H. P. 1051

House of Representatives, Feb. 7, 1933.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Bushey of Waterville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE

AN ACT to Amend the Absent Voting Law.

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

Sec. 1. R. S. c. 9, § 2, amended. Section 2 of chapter 9 of the revised statutes, is hereby amended by adding thereto after paragraph (e) the following paragraphs, to read as follows:

‘f. **Notice of number of ballots.** In the case of city elections, the city clerk shall notify in writing each municipal officer of his city as to the exact number of official absent voting ballots which he has prepared for each voting precinct or ward of his said city, 3 days at least, Sundays included, before said city election; and a copy of such notice shall be filed by the city clerk in the office of the city clerk in a book kept for that purpose, 2 days at least, Sundays included, before said election.’

Sec. 2. R. S. c. 9, § 5, amended. Section 5 of chapter 9 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

‘**Sec. 5.** When application is received, clerk shall submit it to officials charged with registration of voters; said officials shall certify to genuineness of applicant and keep record thereof; if not certified as genuine, applicant to be notified; applications to be preserved and note to be made on check list. When an application for an official absent voting ballot is received by the clerk of a city or town, he shall forthwith transmit same to the officials charged by law with the registration and enrolment of

voters in said city or town. Said officials shall examine same; and, if they believe the signature thereon to be genuine and the statements therein made by the applicant to be true, they shall execute the certificate thereon and return same to said clerk. **Said officials shall keep a record in a book provided for that purpose of all voters whose applications for official voting ballots are certified to the city or town clerk together with the date of the execution of the certificate on the application.** The city clerk shall cause to be placed on the voting list, opposite the name of each person to whom an official absent voting ballot is mailed or delivered, and prior to the opening of the polls on election day, the letters in capitals A. V. If said officials do not believe said signature to be genuine or said statements made by the applicant to be true, or decline to execute the said certificate, they shall forthwith mail to the purported applicant at his last address as stated on said application written notice to that effect, giving their reasons for so declining. They shall preserve the application until the time set by law for the destruction of ballots cast in the coming election, at which time said application shall also be destroyed. The clerk shall keep lists of the names and addresses, arranged by voting precincts, of all voters filing applications for absent voting ballots, and shall post copies of said lists for public inspection at each polling place.'

Sec. 3. R. S. c. 9, § 8, amended. Section 8 of chapter 9 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 8. Procedure to be employed by clerk upon receipt of envelope purporting to contain absent voting ballot. Upon receipt of an envelope purporting to contain an official absent voting ballot, the clerk of the city or town shall attach thereto the application for an official absent voting ballot executed by the voter whose name appears thereon and certified by the registration officials as hereinbefore provided, **and the clerk shall keep lists of names and addresses, arranged by voting precincts, of all voters whose names appear thereon, together with the date when the said envelopes were received, and said lists shall be public records and preserved by the clerk until the time set by law for the destruction of ballots cast in the coming election.** All such envelopes shall be preserved unopened. Upon election day before the hour for closing the polls the said clerk shall deliver all envelopes received by him to the election officials in the several voting precincts in which the voters named therein assert the right to vote, together with a list signed by him of the voters' names and addresses as shown upon said envelopes.'