

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 757

S. P. 341

In Senate, February 18, 1937.

Taken from table on motion by Senator Martin of Penobscot and on further motion by Senator Marden of Kennebec referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Marden of Kennebec (by request).

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Employment of Convict Labor on Highways.

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

R. S., c. 92, § 14, amended. Section 14 of chapter 92 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out all of said section, and substituting therefor the following section:

‘Sec. 14. Employment of convicts. County commissioners of each county shall authorize and require the sheriff of their county to put able-bodied male convicts to work on the building or repairing of highways and the manufacture of materials for the construction of the same within their county. They shall make rules and regulations and appoint overseers and keepers needful for the direction and safe keeping of prisoners so employed, and such overseers and keepers shall have all authority conferred by law on masters of houses of correction and shall be responsible for the safe keeping and return to jail of all prisoners in their custody, and shall be subject to the provisions of section 52 of chapter 94. No prisoner shall be so employed who has been exempt therefrom by the

magistrate imposing sentence, or if in the judgment of a physician expressed by a certificate he is unfit for such labor. The county commissioners shall supply all prisoners with all necessary and suitable clothing of such description as shall not materially distinguish them from other workmen; they shall also furnish said prisoners with the required tools and implements and may employ such other labor and purchase such other material and equipment as may be necessary to properly carry out the object of this section, and shall keep account of all expenses incident to such employment. The employment of convict labor as aforesaid shall be upon such highways and so managed as not to be in competition with paid labor.'