

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 171

H. P. 518

House of Representatives, January 26, 1939.

Referred to Committee on Towns and sent up for concurrence. 500 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Burbank of Chelsea.

S T A T E O F M A I N E

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-NINE

AN ACT Relative to City and Town Records.

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

R. S., c. 5, § 67, amended. Section 67, of chapter 5, of the revised statutes, is hereby amended to read as follows:

‘Sec. 67. Care and custody of municipal records. Clerks to make return of books of record and registry. The records of cities, towns and plantations shall be in the care and custody of the officer charged with the duty of making entries therein. Records for current and prior years shall be in the custody of officers as follows: records of the tax collector shall be in the care and custody of the current collector; records of the treasurer shall be in the care and custody of the current treasurer, such records to include tax liens and tax deeds, insurance policies, bank statements, cancelled checks, used check books, and unless otherwise provided, evidence of investment of trust funds,—also deeds to town properties and similar documents of value; records of the selectmen, including warrants and vouchers therefor and bonds of town officers, shall be in the care and custody of the selectmen; records of the town clerk, including the record of dog licenses, shall be in the care and custody of the town clerk. No record herein named shall be destroyed without the written permission of the auditor who last made an audit of the records of the city, town or plantation, as provided by

chapter 216 of the public laws of 1937, or of the state department of audit. Destruction or obliteration of such records without such written permission shall be considered prima facie evidence of fraudulent intent. The clerks of all cities and towns shall, in the month of December in each year, make a return to the clerks of the judicial courts in the several counties, showing the number and nature of such books of record and registry as are in their custody, and where they are kept and deposited; said return shall also show where the books of the municipal officers and treasurer are kept and deposited.'