

# 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

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 929**

S. P. 300

In Senate, February 16, 1939.

Taken from table by Sen. Laughlin of Cumberland and referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent down for concurrence and 500 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Laughlin of Cumberland.

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S T A T E   O F   M A I N E

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
THIRTY-NINE.

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**AN ACT Relating to the Commitment of the Insane; Penalty for False  
Testimony.**

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

**Sec. 1. Examination of insane persons.** No person shall be declared insane or sent to any institution for the insane by municipal officers or by a judge of probate, or by any other person or persons constituting a board of examiners charged with authority to inquire into the condition of a person alleged to be insane, unless the person alleged to be insane shall first have been examined by 2 reputable physicians, 1 of whom shall be a trained psychiatrist, who shall be appointed by said municipal officers or by the probate judge, or by any examining board before whom proceedings are held, and neither of whom or of said members shall be related to the person alleged to be insane or related to the person or persons making complaint, and such physicians shall have certified that the person examined is in fact insane.

**Sec. 2. Penalty for false testimony.** Any person who shall cause or attempt to cause, or who shall conspire with any other person to cause any person who is not insane to be committed to any institution for the insane, and any person who shall knowingly certify falsely to the insanity of any

person in any certificate, or testify falsely at any hearing to inquire into the condition of a person alleged to be insane, and any person who shall knowingly report falsely to any court or to any person or persons charged with authority to inquire into the condition of the person alleged to be insane, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000, or shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 1 year nor more than 5 years, or shall be punished by both such fine and imprisonment.