

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. 944

H. P. 1776

House of Representatives, February 17, 1939.

Reported by Mr. Varney from Committee on Judiciary and laid on table to be printed under Joint Rules.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

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

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-NINE

**AN ACT Relating to Raising Money to Maintain a Hospital in Washington
County.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, there is no hospital in the vicinity of Machias that is now operating, and

Whereas, it is necessary that emergency cases have an opportunity of hospitalization, and

Whereas, certain towns in the county of Washington are willing to raise money to assist in the maintenance of a hospital if they have the authority, and

Whereas, action must be taken immediately if a hospital is to be maintained in Machias, and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of section 16 of Article XXXI of the constitution of the state 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:

Sec. 1. Provisions of act may be accepted under certain conditions.
Any 2 or more towns in Washington county are hereby severally authorized

to accept the provisions of this act by a vote in town meeting, the warrant for which contains an article therefor.

Sec. 2. Towns to be represented. The selectmen of such towns as accept this act shall severally appoint a corporator or corporators to represent such town from which they are appointed in organizing the corporation hereinafter provided for.

Sec. 3. Corporation for maintaining hospital to be formed. The corporators so appointed shall upon call of any one of them meet and form a non-profit, charitable corporation for the purpose of acquiring, maintaining and operating a hospital in Machias in Washington county for the benefit of the inhabitants of said county and especially of the towns represented on the board of corporators. Said corporation shall be formed in the manner and have the rights and be subject to the duties of corporations organized under sections 1 to 7 inclusive of chapter 70 of the revised statutes, and amendments thereto, and shall be authorized to do all things necessary or convenient for carrying out of the purposes aforesaid.

Sec. 4. Members of corporation. The corporators appointed as aforesaid, together with such others as may thereafterwards be appointed in the same manner from other towns which may from time to time accept this act, but in no case more than 1 from each town and their successors, shall be the members of such hospital corporation.

Sec. 5. Term of office. Corporators shall continue as such until a successor be appointed by the selectmen of the town from which he is appointed.

Sec. 6. Purposes for which money may be raised. Each city and town in the county of Washington is hereby authorized from time to time to appropriate and raise by taxation from time to time under an appropriate article in the warrant of a town meeting money to be paid to said corporation to enable it to carry out its purposes including the acquisition of a hospital by lease, purchase or otherwise and the maintenance thereof as a non-profit, charitable hospital for the benefit of the inhabitants of Washington county.

Sec. 7. Private patients may be received. The corporators may make proper arrangements with surgeons and physicians for the reception of private patients, and charge said patients a reasonable sum for hospitalization not exceeding the cost thereof.

Sec. 8. Distribution of assets upon liquidation of corporation. Upon

dissolution or liquidation of said corporation the assets thereof after the payment of liabilities shall vest in the several towns making contributions thereto under the authority of section 6 of this act, in the proportion that their respective contributions bear to the total amount so contributed.

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