

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. 1043

H. P. 1958

House of Representatives, March 16, 1939.

Reported by Mr. Payson from Committee on Legal Affairs 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 Authorizing Towns to Employ a Town Manager or to Form
Unions for the Purpose.**

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

Sec. 1. Town manager form of government. Any town, at the annual town meeting, or at a special town meeting, provided an appropriate article has been inserted for such meeting, may vote to employ a town manager, or to form a union with one or more other towns in the employment of a town manager, and may delegate to the selectmen the right to fix the compensation of such town manager. In every case where a union is formed for the purpose of employing a town manager, the compensation for said town manager shall be paid by the several towns in said union in such proportions as may be decided by the selectmen of such towns, and each of said towns is authorized to raise by taxation the necessary money therefor.

Sec. 2. Unions may be organized. The manager elected by any such town or union of towns shall be manager of the municipal and prudential affairs of said town or of each of the several towns comprising such union, and as such manager shall perform, for each of said towns, the duties hereinafter specified. Any town entering into such a union may withdraw therefrom by vote at any annual town meeting. Said withdrawal shall not become effective until 60 days after written notice of such intention to with-

draw shall have been given to the selectmen of each of the other towns comprising such union.

Sec. 3. Powers and duties of town manager. Town managers shall be chosen on the basis of their executive and administrative qualifications by the selectmen at a town voting to employ a town manager, or by a joint board composed of the selectmen of the several towns comprising a union for the purposes of this act in which joint board the selectmen of each town shall cast collectively a single vote. A town manager shall be the administrative head of the government of the town, or of each of the several towns comprising a town union, and shall be responsible to the selectmen of each town for the administration of all departments of each said town, over which the selectmen of towns have control, and his powers and duties, where not otherwise provided, shall be generally as follows:

a. To see that the laws and ordinances are enforced.

b. To act as purchasing agent for all town departments except school departments, and to submit to bids any purchases involving more than \$100 if the selectmen or the joint board shall so order.

c. To attend the meetings of the selectmen, except when his removal is being considered, and recommend for adoption such measures as he may deem expedient.

d. To keep the selectmen and the citizens of said town or towns fully advised as to the financial conditions of said town or towns.

e. To perform in each town or towns such other duties as may be prescribed for him by the selectmen, including the duties or any part of the duties of the town treasurer, the road commissioner or commissioners, the tax collector, and the overseers of the poor, any other provisions of statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 4. Removal. Any town manager elected under the provisions of this act may be removed from his said office for cause by the selectmen of any town by which he is employed or by the joint board aforesaid in case his employment is by a town union.