

NINETIETH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

S. P. 369

In Senate, February 11, 1941.

No. 683

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent down for concurrence and 650 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Fellows of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Voting Booths.

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

R. S., c. 8, § 14, amended. Section 14 of chapter 8 of the revised statutes, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 14. Voting compartments to be provided for use of voters while marking their ballots. The municipal officers in each city, town, or plantation, as aforesaid, shall cause the polling places therein to be suitably provided with a sufficient number of voting shelves and compartments, at or in which voters may conveniently mark their ballots so that in the marking thereof they shall be screened from the observation of others, and each voting shelf and compartment shall have a wooden swing door or drop curtain so arranged that the top thereof shall be not less than 6 feet from the floor and the bottom of the door or drop curtain shall be at least 2 feet and 6 inches from the floor. And such door entrance shall be shut closed while the voter is within the compartment, and no one shall be allowed therein with him, unless he calls for assistance in the marking of his ballot, and such assistance shall be so furnished according to the provisions of this chapter, and a guard-rail shall be so constructed and placed that only such persons as are inside said rail can approach within 6 feet of the ballot-boxes and of such voting shelves and compartments. The arrangement shall be such that the ballot-boxes shall not be hidden from the view of persons present, and the voting shelves and compartments shall be so arranged that the door entrance of each compartment shall be next to the guard-rail, so as to admit to full view of the persons just outside of the guard-rail those who enter and leave each compartment. The number of such voting shelves and compartments shall not be less than one for every 200 voters qualified to vote at such polling place, and not less than 2 in any town, and not less than 5 in any ward of a city. No persons other than the election officers, election clerks, and voters admitted as hereinafter provided, shall be permitted within said rail, except by authority of the presiding election officer or officers for the purpose of keeping order and enforcing the law. Each voting shelf and compartment shall be kept provided with proper supplies and conveniences for marking the ballots.'