

NINETIETH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1073

S. P. 521

In Senate, March 28, 1941.

Reported by Senator Sanborn of Cumberland from Committee on Legal Affairs and laid on table to be printed under joint rules. ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY-ONE

AN ACT Consolidating the Aviation Laws.

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

Sec. 1. Aeronautics commission to be appointed; term. The governor, with the advice and consent of the council, is hereby authorized to appoint a commission of 3 citizens of the state, to be known as the aeronautics commission and to serve for the following terms: in the first instance, one for a term of 3 years, one for a term of 2 years, and one for a term of 1 year. Thereafter at the expiration of the term of office of any member, the governor shall appoint a citizen of the state to serve for a term of 3 years or until his successor is duly appointed and qualified. In case of the death or resignation of any member, the governor, with the advice and consent of his council, shall appoint a citizen of Maine to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term, or until his successor is duly appointed and qualified.

Sec. 2. No compensation. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

Sec. 3. Duties of the commission. The commission shall administer the laws relating to aeronautics and shall make such rules and regulations concerning air traffic, not inconsistent with federal regulations covering aeronautics, as may be necessary to promote public safety and the best interests of aviation in the state. The commission shall advance the interests of aeronautics within the state by studying aviation needs, assisting and advising authorized representatives of political subdivisions within the state in the development of aeronautics and by cooperating and coordinating with such other agencies, whether local, state, regional or federal, as may be working toward the development of aeronautics within the state.

The commission shall supervise and control all state airports and shall make such rules and regulations concerning the use of the said airports and their facilities as they deem necessary for the efficient management thereof and the development of aviation.

Sec. 4. Registration of planes, pilots and riggers. No civil aircraft shall be flown in the state unless such aircraft and its pilot are properly licensed under federal law, nor unless they have an unrevoked and unsuspended certificate of registration as hereinafter provided.

All aircraft owners resident in the state and operating planes in the state shall register such aircraft with the commission and pay a fee of \$1 for each registration.

All aircraft pilots and all parachute riggers resident in the state and operating in the state shall register with the commission and pay a fee of \$1.

All persons registering under the provisions of this chapter shall receive a certificate thereof. Any certificate issued under the provisions of this chapter may be revoked or suspended by the commission, after hearing, whenever the holder thereof violates any of the provisions of this chapter or any of the rules and regulations issued under the authority of the provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 5. Terms defined. When used in this chapter, or in any of the rules and regulations promulgated by its authority, the term "aircraft" means any contrivance now known or hereafter invented, used, or designed for navigation of, or flight in the air, except a parachute or other contrivances designed for such navigation but used primarily as safety equipment.

The term "public aircraft" means any aircraft used exclusively in the governmental service of the United States or of any state or territory thereof.

The term "civil aircraft" means any aircraft other than a public aircraft.

The term "airman" means any individual, including the person in command, and any pilot, mechanic or member of the crew, who engages in the navigation of aircraft, while under way, or any individual who is in charge of the inspection, overhauling or repairing of aircraft. The term "person" means an individual, a partnership, or 2 or more individuals having a joint or common interest, or a corporation.

The term "aeronautics" means the operation of aircraft and all acts incidental or necessary to their operation, such as promotion of corporations, building and equipping landing fields, improving and marking the fields and establishing directional signs.

The term "rigger" means any persons licensed by the federal government for packing, repairing and maintaining parachutes.

Sec. 6. Aeronautical director. The commission shall appoint an aeronautical director to serve at its pleasure. The director shall act as executive officer of the commission and under its direction shall administer the aeronautical laws and enforce the rules and regulations of the commission. The salary of the director shall be fixed by the commission subject to the approval of the governor and council.

Sec. 7. Penalty. Whoever violates any provision of this chapter or any rule or regulation promulgated hereunder shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100 or by imprisonment for not more than 3 months.

Sec. 8. Inconsistent statutes repealed. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.