

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - S E C O N D L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 266

H. P. 657

House of Representatives, February 1, 1945.

Referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Poulin of Rumford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relating to Public Safety Commission for Rumford Falls Village Corporation.

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

Sec. 1. P. & S. L., 1935, c. 71, § 1, repealed and replaced. Section 1 of chapter 71 of the private and special laws of 1935 is hereby repealed and replaced to read as follows:

‘Sec. 1. Public safety commission created. The police and fire departments of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation shall consist of a public safety commission of 3 members, a chief of police and such other officers and patrolmen as the commission designates, a chief of the fire department and such other permanent and callmen as the commission shall from time to time designate.’

Sec. 2. P. & S. L., 1935, c. 71, § 4, repealed and replaced. Section 4 of chapter 71 of the private and special laws of 1935 is hereby repealed and replaced to read as follows:

‘Sec. 4. Powers and duties of commission. The commission hereby created shall have full power and authority, subject to the provisions of this act to organize and establish the police force and fire department of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation and to make all rules and regulations for the government, control and efficiency of the same. They shall

have the power to increase or decrease the number of persons who may be employed in each department. Said commission shall have and exercise all the powers and be charged with all the duties relative to organization, appointment and control of said police department and fire department now conferred on or imposed upon the assessors of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation and such other powers as are given to them by the terms of this act.'

Sec. 3. P. & S. L., 1935, c. 71, § 6, repealed and replaced. Section 6 of chapter 71 of the private and special laws of 1935 is hereby repealed and replaced to read as follows:

'Sec. 6. Candidates for patrolmen and firemen, application, examination, etc. Candidates for appointment as patrolmen, permanent firemen and engineers shall make application therefor to said commission upon blanks furnished by it. All such candidates and all candidates to fill any vacancies occurring in said department, including call men in the fire department, or for any new places in said departments occasioned by an increase in the number thereof shall submit to such qualification tests as may be prescribed by said commission. The commission by such qualification tests shall inquire into the physical, mental and moral fitness of each applicant for appointment. They shall place upon an eligible list all successful applicants, and appointments shall be made from men upon such eligible list. Each applicant shall remain upon said list for a period of 1 year from the date of his examination. The physical examination prescribed the commission shall be conducted by a physician appointed for the purpose by it and the fee for such physical examination shall be paid by the applicant in advance.'

Sec. 4. P. & S. L., 1935, c. 71, § 7, repealed and replaced. Section 7 of chapter 71 of the private and special laws of 1935 is hereby repealed and replaced to read as follows:

'Sec. 7. Eligibility; preference given to former police officers and firemen; retirement. All male citizens of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation between the ages of 24 and 40 and who have resided for 2 years in the Rumford Falls Village Corporation shall be eligible to appointment as patrolmen in the police department, permanent firemen and engineers in the fire department, except that call men who serve 10 years as call men and before reaching the age of 50 years may be appointed as permanent firemen or engineers, providing they are otherwise eligible and provided they shall have made written application therefor and shall have satisfactorily passed the qualification test prescribed said commission, provided

further however, that any police officer including the chief of police of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation, the chief of the fire department, the 4 permanent men and the 2 engineers in the fire department serving at the time of the effective date of this act shall be appointed and hold the same rating held by them at the time of the effective date of this act without any examination or tests. Any police officer of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation serving as a special police officer at the time of the effective date of this act shall be appointed and hold the same rating held by him at the time of the effective date of this act without any examination or tests and shall be appointed as a regular patrolman to the 1st vacancy in the Rumford Falls Village Corporation police department without examination or tests if otherwise mentally or physically qualified and not previously removed as provided by this act. Each police officer including the chief of police, the chief of the fire department, 4 permanent men and the 2 engineers shall be appointed to serve until he has reached the age of 65 years at which time he may, upon petition to and permission from the commission, be retired unless previously removed by said commission as hereinafter authorized or becomes physically or mentally disabled from performing his duties before reaching the age of 65 years. All those retired on account of permanent disability before reaching the age of 65 years shall also be paid retirement pay as hereinafter provided, except that call men in the fire department shall be retired on reaching the age of 60 years.'

Sec. 5. P. & S. L., 1935, c. 71, § 9, repealed and replaced. Section 9 of chapter 71 of the private and special laws of 1935 is hereby repealed and replaced to read as follows:

'Sec. 9. Chief of department, how chosen, powers and duties. The chief of police and chief of fire department shall be chosen by the commission by a written ballot to serve until retirement age or otherwise retired or removed as provided by this act, but no person who has reached their 40th birthday shall be so appointed. He shall qualify by being sworn by a clerk of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation or by a justice of the peace to the faithful discharge of his duties and in event that he qualifies before a justice of the peace a certificate thereof shall be forthwith filed with said clerk of Rumford Falls Village Corporation. He shall have and exercise all the powers and authority in his respective department now given to the chief of police and chief of the fire department by the by-laws and ordinances of the said Rumford Falls Village Corporation and by the general statutes of the state and such special powers and authority as may from time to time be delegated to him by the commission. The commission shall appoint from the patrolmen provided for in this act 1 lieutenant who

shall have such duties and powers as shall be delegated to him by the commission or by the chief of police.'

Sec. 6. P. & S. L., 1935, c. 71, § 10, repealed and replaced. Section 10 of chapter 71 of the private and special laws of 1935 is hereby repealed and replaced to read as follows:

'Sec. 10. Special patrolmen, inspectors; compensation and appointment. Special patrolmen, with pay, shall be appointed by the chief of police from a list furnished to him by the commission, for a period of 1 year and such special patrolmen shall receive such daily pay as the commission from time to time designates for each day actually worked to be paid by the treasurer of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation upon approval by the chief of police. Special patrolmen, without pay, may be appointed by the chief of police for a period of not more than 1 year for private duty.'