

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

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. 526

H. P. 946

House of Representatives, February 8, 1945.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Boulier of Stacyville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relating to State Bureau of Identification.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 13, § 13, repealed and replaced. Section 13 of chapter 13 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and replaced to read as follows:

Sec. 13. State bureau of identification, records and statistics; fingerprints and photographs of persons suspected of crime. The state bureau of identification is hereby established within the department of state police and shall hereafter be known as the state bureau of identification, records and statistics. The chief of the state police shall appoint a person who has sufficient identification qualifications, including thorough knowledge of the various standard identification systems, Maine court procedure, parole and probation, to be supervisor of the state bureau of identification, and he may delegate members of the state police to serve in said bureau upon request of the supervisor. The supervisor shall have the authority to hire such civilian personnel, subject to the provisions of the personnel law, and the approval of the chief of the state police, as he may deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this section and the 5 following sections. The chief of state police shall supply such bureau with the nec-

essary apparatus and materials for collection, filing, preserving and distributing criminal records.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 13, §§ 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, amended. Sections 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 of chapter 13 of the revised statutes are hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 14. **Recording of finger-prints.** The state police, the persons in charge of all state penal institutions, the wardens or keepers of jails and prisons, the several sheriffs, and the chiefs of police in each of the cities and towns of the state **and other law-enforcement officers, municipal court judges and trial justices** shall have the authority to take or cause to be taken, and shall take or cause to be taken, the finger-prints or photographs or both the finger-prints and photographs of any person in custody charged with the commission of crime, or of any person who they have reason to believe is a fugitive from justice, or of any suspicious person, or of any habitual criminal, and of all unidentified dead persons, and they shall furnish daily to the supervisor of the state bureau of identification copies of the finger-prints and photographs so taken, **together with a report of the way the crime was committed, the method of operation of the person arrested, and any psychiatric report or other pertinent information which may be necessary to keep the records and statistics of the state bureau of identification,** such finger-prints to be taken **and additional reports made** on forms furnished or approved by the state bureau of identification. The supervisor of the state bureau of identification shall immediately upon receipt of such records, compare them with other records already on file, and shall furnish to the **proper** official ~~forwarding such records,~~ such information as he may have relative to the criminal record of such persons.'

'Sec. 15. **Officers to furnish information.** ~~It shall be the duty of the persons in charge of any jail, prison, or reformatory within the state to furnish to the supervisor of the bureau of identification, upon request, the finger prints, photographs, and description of any person detained in such institution.~~ It is hereby made the duty of every clerk of every criminal court, including municipal courts and justices' courts and of every head of every department, bureau and institution, state, county and local, dealing with criminals and of every officer, probation officer, county attorney or person whose duties make him the appropriate officer, to transmit, not later than the 1st and 15th day of each calendar month, to the supervisor of the state bureau of identification, such information as may be necessary to enable him to comply with the provisions of sections 14

and 16. Such reports shall be made upon forms which shall be supplied or approved by the state bureau of identification.'

'Sec. 16. **Supervisor to cooperate with other bureaus.** The supervisor of the state bureau of identification shall cooperate with similar bureaus in other states and with the national bureau in the department of justice in Washington, D. C. and he shall develop and carry on an interstate, national, and international system of identification.'

'Sec. 17. **Cooperation with local officials.** The supervisor of the state bureau of identification shall afford instruction and offer assistance to all persons required to take finger-prints and photographs in the establishment and operation of their local systems of identification; in order to assure coordination with the system of identification conducted by the state bureau. Neglect or refusal of any person or official to make reports or perform any other act required by the provisions of sections 13 to 18, inclusive, shall constitute a misdemeanor, and such person or official, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$50.'

'Sec. 18. **Rules and regulations.** The supervisor of the state bureau of identification shall make and forward to all persons charged with any duty or responsibility under the provisions of the 5 preceding sections, rules and regulations for the taking and preserving of the finger-prints and other records as hereinbefore provided, such rules and regulations before becoming effective to be approved by the attorney-general.'