

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. 952

S. P. 372

In Senate, February 21, 1945.

Transmitted by revisor of statutes pursuant to joint order

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

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Currier of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-FIVE

**AN ACT Permitting Religious, Charitable, Fraternal or Benevolent
Societies or Associations to Operate Lotteries.**

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

R. S., c. 121, §§ 43-A - 43-F, additional. Chapter 121 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto 6 new sections, to be numbered 43-A to 43-F, inclusive, to read as follows:

'Sec. 43-A. Regulatory powers. The secretary of state shall have general supervision of the provisions of sections 43-A to 43-F, inclusive, and the issuing of licenses thereunder.'

'Sec. 43-B. Applicants for licenses. Any religious, charitable, fraternal or benevolent society or association, which is chartered, incorporated or associated under the laws of this state and which has at least 1,000 members, may through duly authorized officers apply to the secretary of state for a license to conduct a lottery within this state. All applications shall be in such form as the secretary of state may require. All questions required to be answered shall be sworn to and intentionally untruthful answers shall constitute the crime of perjury. Every application for a license shall be accompanied by a filing fee of \$10.'

'Sec. 43-C. Limitations of licenses. No organization shall be licensed to operate more than 1 lottery during a calendar year.'

'Sec. 43-D. Distribution of money received by the lottery. Fifty per cent of the total amount collected by any lottery licensed under the provisions of sections 43-A to 43-F, inclusive, shall be distributed in prizes; 25% of the total amount of money collected may be retained by the licensee; and 25% of the total amount of money collected shall be forwarded within 3 days of the termination of the lottery to the secretary of state, together with a sworn statement of the total amount of money collected, the amount of each prize and the total amount of all prizes.'

'Sec. 43-E. Lottery fund. The secretary of state shall turn over to the treasurer of state all money received from licensed lotteries. The treasurer of state shall keep a separate account to be known as the "lottery fund", to which shall be credited all money received from the secretary of state from licensed lotteries, as provided for in sections 43-A to 43-F, inclusive. Fifty per cent of this fund shall be used for the benefit of veterans of World War II and 50% of this fund shall be used for old age assistance, as may be directed by the legislature.'

'Sec. 43-F. Conformity. The provisions of sections 43-A to 43-E, inclusive, shall conform to all existing federal laws as they may apply to lotteries.'

Referendum. This act shall take effect 90 days after the adjournment of this legislature only for the purpose of permitting its submission to the legal voters of the state; and the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns and the assessors of the several plantations of this state are hereby empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and holding biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of senators and representatives, at the next general or special state-wide election held on a 2nd Monday in September, to give in their votes upon the acceptance or rejection of the foregoing act, and the question shall be: "Shall 'An Act Permitting Religious, Charitable, Fraternal or Benevolent Societies or Associations to Operate Lotteries,' passed by the 92nd Legislature be accepted?"

And the legal voters of said cities, towns and plantations shall indicate by a cross, placed within a square upon their ballots their opinion of the same, those in favor of said act voting "Yes" and those opposed to said act voting "No" and the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings, and return made to

the office of the secretary of state in the same manner as votes for governor and members of the legislature, and the governor and council shall count the same and if it shall appear that a majority of the legal voters voting on the question are in favor of the act, the governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation and the act shall thereupon become effective as of the date of said proclamation.

Secretary of state shall prepare ballots. The secretary of state shall prepare and furnish to the several cities, towns and plantations ballots and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing act accompanied by a copy thereof.