

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - SECOND L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 953

S. P. 371

In Senate, February 21, 1945.

Transmitted by revisor of statutes pursuant to joint order

Referred to the 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 Relating to Operation and Use of Slot Machines.

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

R. S., c. 121, amended. Chapter 121 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto 11 new sections, to be numbered 45 to 55, inclusive, to read as follows:

‘Sec. 45. **Regulatory powers.** The state police shall have general supervision, issuing of licenses, regulation and inspection of all slot machines, and enforcement of all laws and regulations pertaining to the use of said machines.’

‘Sec. 46. **Applicants for licenses.** All applicants for licenses shall be required to file applications in such form as the state police shall require, and every application shall disclose the complete and entire ownership in the establishment for which a license is sought. All questions required to be answered in the application for licenses shall be sworn to, and intentionally untruthful answers shall constitute the crime of perjury. All applications must be sworn to by a natural person who has full knowledge of the facts involved. Every applicant for an original license, or for a renewal of license, shall remit to the state police a filing fee of \$10.’

‘Sec. 47. **License fees.** The fee for licenses for each individual machine shall be \$200 per year.’

'Sec. 48. License fees; when due and payable; renewals. Licenses shall be issued for the license year and the fee prescribed therefor shall accompany the application. Licenses may be renewed upon application therefor and the payment of the annual fee, and the state police shall make rules and regulations regarding applications for renewal of licenses and the time when such applications shall be made.'

'Sec. 49. Veterans' fund. The treasurer of the state shall keep a separate account to be known as the "veterans fund", to which shall be credited all money received from licenses and fees as provided for in sections 45 to 55, inclusive. Such fund shall be used for the benefit of veterans of World War II, as may be directed by the legislature.'

'Sec. 50. Persons to whom licenses shall not be granted. No license shall be issued to any natural person, unless such person is at least 21 years of age and a citizen of the United States and of this state. No license shall be issued to a partnership or to an association, unless all persons having an interest therein are at least 21 years of age and are citizens of the United States and of this state. No license shall be issued to any corporation, unless it shall be incorporated under the laws of this state or authorized to transact business in this state. No such license shall be issued to any person who, within 5 years prior to his application therefor, has been convicted of felony.'

'Sec. 51. Limitations of license. No license for more than 1 machine shall be issued to any 1 place of business, such place of business to have been in continuous operation with regular hours for at least 1 year prior to application for a license.'

'Sec. 52. Display of licenses. All licenses shall be publicly displayed by the licensees on the premises to which they apply.'

'Sec. 53. Transfer of licenses. No license privilege shall be transferred or assigned, and in case of sale or transfer of the business in connection with which the licensed activities are conducted, the license holder shall immediately submit to the state police a statement, under oath, showing the name and address of the purchaser and any other person directly or indirectly interested in the enterprise.'

'Sec. 54. Hours of use. No slot machine may be used or operated in any way on Sundays nor between the hours of midnight and 6:00 A. M.'

'Sec. 55. Conformity. Sections 45 to 55, inclusive, shall conform to all existing federal, state and local laws relative to ownership, sale and operation of slot machines.'

Referendum. 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 Relating to Operation and Use of Slot Machines' 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.