

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - F O U R T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 50

S. P. 74

In Senate, January 19, 1949

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

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Haskell of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-NINE

AN ACT Permitting the Presidential Short Ballot.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 5, § 78, amended. Section 78 of chapter 5 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof a new paragraph to read as follows:

'The names of the electors shall not appear on the official ballot, but the names of the candidates for president and vice-president, respectively, of the political parties as defined by law shall appear at the head of their respective tickets.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 5, § 79, amended. Section 79 of chapter 5 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 79. Votes, how received, returned and counted; secretary to send for delinquent returns; notice to persons elected. The votes shall be sorted, counted, declared and recorded; and the returns of the number of ballots and of the votes given for each ~~elector~~ candidate shall be made, according to the constitution and laws, to the secretary of state, on or before the 2nd Tuesday after such meeting; on said 2nd Tuesday, the governor and council shall be in session, and shall open, examine and count the returns of votes so made, and the secretary of state shall forthwith send a messenger

to every city and town from which a return has not been received at his office for the purpose of procuring the wanting return and the governor and council shall again meet on the 3rd Tuesday following such election, and examine and count all the votes received from the several cities, towns and plantations and the votes of citizens in the military service lawfully returned into the office of the secretary of state; and they shall forthwith send a certificate of election to each person who has received the greatest number of all the votes returned, not exceeding the number to be chosen.

A vote for the candidates of any political party for both president and vice-president shall be conclusively deemed to be a vote for candidates of the same party for presidential electors, and shall be so counted and recorded for such electors as the state shall be empowered to elect.

The canvass of the votes for candidates for president and vice-president and the returns thereof shall be a canvass and return of the votes cast for the electors of the same party, respectively, and the certificate of such election made by the governor and council shall be in accord with such return.'