

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 450

S. P. 169

In Senate, February 3, 1955

Held for reconsideration and on motion of Senator Chapman of Cumberland reference reconsidered and referred to the Committee on Judiciary, sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Weeks of Cumberland by request.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-FIVE

**AN ACT Relating to Salaries of Registers of Deeds and Clerk Hire and Indexes
of Records.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the registers of deeds have in the past been paid for compiling revised indexes of their records, as provided by section 243 of chapter 79 of the revised statutes of 1944; and

Whereas, the Supreme Judicial Court of Maine decided on April 27, 1953 that registers of deeds must make the revised index under section 243 of chapter 79 of the revised statutes of 1944 as a part of their duties for which they receive a salary under the revised statutes of 1944, chapter 79, section 231, and that the provision of section 243 in regard to payment for revising indexes was no longer in force; and

Whereas, said provision for payment for compiling revised indexes has been omitted from the revised statutes of 1954; and

Whereas, since said decision of the Supreme Judicial Court, and prior thereto, many registers of deeds have, through error, been paid by their respective counties for making revised indexes under chapter 79, section 243, sums in addition to their salaries paid under chapter 79, section 231, which payments were not authorized by law; and

Whereas, the salaries of said registers are inadequate for the work and responsibility of the office and for the additional work and responsibility of making revised indexes; and

Whereas, in several counties new revised indexes must be made at once; and

Whereas, in all counties the register's clerks receive inadequate salaries; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety; now, therefore

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 89, § 215, amended. The 1st paragraph of section 215 of chapter 89 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Registers of deeds in the several counties shall receive annual salaries from the treasuries of the counties in monthly or weekly payments, as follows:

Androscoggin, ~~\$3,300~~ \$4,500,
 Aroostook, northern registry, ~~\$2,700~~ \$3,500; southern registry, ~~\$3,200~~ \$4,000,
 Cumberland, ~~\$4,100~~ \$6,000,
 Franklin, ~~\$1,700~~ \$3,500,
 Hancock, ~~\$2,100~~ \$4,000,
 Kennebec, ~~\$2,950~~ \$4,500,
 Knox, ~~\$2,400~~ \$3,500,
 Lincoln, ~~\$1,820~~ \$3,500,
 Oxford, eastern registry, ~~\$2,000~~ \$3,500; western registry, ~~\$1,400~~ \$3,000,
 Penobscot, ~~\$2,000~~ \$5,000,
 Piscataquis, ~~\$2,200~~ \$3,500,
 Sagadahoc, ~~\$1,850~~ \$3,500,
 Somerset, ~~\$2,900~~ \$4,000,
 Waldo, ~~\$2,400~~ \$3,500,
 Washington, ~~\$2,250~~ \$3,500,
 York, ~~\$2,500~~ \$5,000.

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 89, § 254, amended. That part of section 254 of chapter 89 of the revised statutes which relates to the total sum of money to be paid annually to clerks in the offices of the registers of deeds is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Androscoggin county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds, ~~\$7,670~~ \$14,000; register's deputized clerk, \$3,200;

Aroostook county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds of the northern district, ~~\$1,820~~ \$3,500; for clerks in the office of register of deeds for the southern district, ~~\$6,240~~ \$11,200; register's deputized clerk, \$3,200;

Cumberland county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds, ~~\$25,000~~ \$30,800; deputy register of deeds, ~~\$3,200~~; register's deputized clerk, \$3,800;

Franklin county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds ~~\$1,300~~ \$4,500;

Hancock county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds, ~~\$3,500~~ \$14,000; register's deputized clerk, \$3,200;

Kennebec county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds, ~~\$3,100~~ \$11,200; register's deputized clerk, \$3,200;

Oxford county: for clerks in the office of the register of deeds ~~\$3,500~~; of the

Lincoln county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds, ~~\$1,400~~ \$5,600;

Oxford county: for clerks in the office of the register of deeds ~~\$3,500~~; of the eastern district, \$8,400; for clerks in the office of the register of deeds of the western district, \$1,400;

Penobscot county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds, ~~\$4,807~~ \$11,200; register's deputized clerk, \$3,200;

Piscataquis county: for clerks in the office of the register of deeds, ~~\$1,820~~ \$3,500;

Sagadahoc county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds, ~~\$2,574~~ \$4,200;

Somerset county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds, ~~\$4,800~~ \$8,400;

Waldo county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds, ~~\$2,680~~ \$3,500;

Washington county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds, ~~\$2,730~~ \$5,600;

York county: for clerks in the office of register of deeds, ~~\$6,000~~ \$16,800; register's deputized clerk, \$3,200;

Sec. 3. Effective date. The provisions of this act shall be retroactive to January 1, 1955.

Sec. 4. Ratification. All payments of sums of money made prior to the effective date of this act to registers of deeds, by their respective counties, for making revised indexes under R. S., 1944, chapter 79, section 243, are hereby ratified and approved.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.