

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. 1353

S. P. 484

In Senate, March 17, 1955

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

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Silsby of Hancock.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Create a Central Register of Attorneys.

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

R. S., c. 105, §§ 25 - 29, additional. Chapter 105 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto 5 new sections to be numbered 25 to 29, inclusive, to read as follows:

'Central Register of Attorneys.

Sec. 25. Central register of attorneys. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to establish and maintain a central register of all persons who have been duly admitted as members of the bar in this State.

Sec. 26. Preparation. Said list shall be prepared from information furnished to the Secretary of State by the clerk of courts from the several counties, each of whom shall within 3 months after the effective date of sections 25 to 29, inclusive, prepare in writing, certify and mail to the office of the Secretary of State, a full, true and complete list of all members of the bar now living who have been admitted in their respective counties.

Sec. 27. Revision. It shall likewise be the duty of the clerk of courts in each of the several counties to furnish to the Secretary of State by registered mail a written certificate setting forth any and all additions to the aforesaid list of members of the bar from his county as well as all deletions by reason of death, resignation, disbarment, suspension or otherwise, and all reinstatements or readmissions not otherwise reported to the Secretary of State as and when they occur and thereupon it shall become the duty of the Secretary of State, forthwith

upon receipt of each amendatory certificate, to revise the central register of attorneys accordingly, to the end that said register may be perpetually maintained with current corrections from each county. A list of persons admitted each year together with the date and place of taking the oath and the date of admission shall be supplied annually to the Secretary of the Board of Bar Examiners by the Secretary of State.

Sec. 28. Register as evidence. If and whenever in any proceedings before any court of civil or criminal jurisdiction within the State of Maine, it becomes an issue as to whether or not any individual is or is not duly admitted to practice law as a member of the bar in the State of Maine, the certificate of the Secretary of State as to whether or not his name then appears upon the said central roll or register of attorneys shall be prima facie evidence of the fact.

Sec. 29. Certificates. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State upon payment of a fee of \$5 to furnish his certificate in respect of any individual as to whether he is or is not recorded as a member of the bar on the said central register except that such certificate shall be furnished without charge to the Attorney General, his deputies and assistants and the county attorneys of the several counties for use in connection with their public duties.'