

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 301

H. P. 217

House of Representatives, January 30, 1957.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Walker of Auburn.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT Relating to Elections in Towns.**

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 91, § 51, amended.** Section 51 of chapter 91 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 51. Opening and closing of polls.** All warrants for town meetings for the election of officers as herein provided shall specify the **voting place, which shall be in the same building, and state the time of opening the polls and the time when the same may be closed;** but the polls shall be kept open at least 4 hours and the method of voting shall be as in gubernatorial elections. **The moderator may appoint a qualified person to act as presiding election officer during his temporary absence from the polling place.'**

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 91, § 52, amended.** Section 52 of chapter 91 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 52. Nomination of candidates.** Nominations for candidates may be made at a caucus or by nomination papers signed in the aggregate for each candidate by qualified voters of said town not less in number than ~~one for every 50 voters, who have registered for the last preceding state election in said towns; but the voters so signing shall in no case be less than 25 in number~~ **25 in towns under 1,000 population; 50 in towns of 1,001 to 4,000 population; 75 in towns of 4,001 to 10,000 population; and 100 in towns of over 10,001 population.** Each voter signing such nomination paper shall add to his signature his place of residence with the street and number thereof, if any; and each voter may subscribe to as many nomination papers for each office as there are members to be elected thereto and no more.'

**Sec. 3. R. S., c. 91, § 57, amended.** Section 57 of chapter 91 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 57. Number of ballots prepared.** There shall be provided for every election held under the provisions of sections 49 to 63, inclusive, such general ballots of not less than ~~75~~ 55 for each 50 and fraction of 50 registered voters therein.'

**Sec. 4. R. S., c. 91, § 59, amended.** Section 59 of chapter 91 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 59. Town clerk to post list of candidates 4 days prior to election.** At least 4 days prior to an election held under the provisions of sections 49 to 63, inclusive, the town clerk shall cause to be conspicuously posted in one or more public places a ~~printed~~ list containing the names and residences of all candidates to be voted for in such town and any designation as provided in section 53, substantially in the form of a general ballot to be so used therein. **Posting specimen ballots, prepared in accordance with the provisions of section 58, shall be deemed fulfillment of the requirements of this section.'**

**Sec. 5. R. S., c. 91, § 60, amended.** Section 60 of chapter 91 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 60. Ballots, cards of instructions, etc., put up in sealed packages.** The ballots, together with the specimen ballots ~~and cards of instruction printed by the town clerk~~ as provided in sections 49 to 63, inclusive, shall be packed by ~~him~~ **the town clerk** in sealed packages with marks on the outside designating the number of ballots of each kind enclosed.'