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NINETY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 348

S. P. 148 Referred to the Committee on State Government. Sent down for concurrence -and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary Presented by Senator Rogerson of Aroostook.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to the Use of Public Ways and Parking Areas Maintained by the State at the Seat of Government.

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

Sec. 1. Definitions. The words "public way" or "public ways," when used in this act, shall be held to mean all roads and driveways on lands maintained by the State at the seat of Government.

The words "parking area" or "parking areas," when used in this act, shall be held to mean all lands maintained by the State at the seat of Government which may be designated as parking areas by the Superintendent of Public Buildings, or his successor.

Sec. 2. Rules and regulations. The Superintendent of Public Buildings, or his successor, is hereby authorized and empowered to make and enforce rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Governor and the Commissioner of Finance and Administration, governing the use of public ways and parking areas maintained by the State at the seat of Government. Said rules and regulations shall become effective upon deposit of a copy thereof with the Secretary of State.

Sec. 3. Special police officers; powers and duties; duties of other officers to cooperate. The Superintendent of Public Buildings, or his successor, is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint and employ, subject to the provisions of the Personnel Law, special police officers for the purpose of enforcing rules and regulations made pursuant to the provisions of section 2 of this act.

The powers and duties of the special police officers so appointed and employed shall be to patrol all of the public ways and parking areas subject to the provisions of this act, enforce the rules and regulations made under the provisions of section 2, arrest any violator thereof and prosecute any offender against the same.

The State Police, sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, constables and police officers of the City of Augusta shall, so far as possible, cooperate with the special police officers appointed and employed under the provisions of this act in the enforcement of rules and regulations made pursuant to the provisions of section 2.

Sec. 4. Jurisdiction. The Municipal Court of the City of Augusta shall have jurisdiction in all proceedings brought under the provisions of this act.

Sec. 5. Fines and costs of court. Any person found guilty of violating any rule or regulation made pursuant to the provisions of section 2 shall, upon conviction, pay a fine and costs of court as follows:

I. For the first offense in any calendar year, a fine of \$1 plus the costs of court;

II. For the second offense in any calendar year, a fine of \$2 plus the costs of court;

III. For each offense in excess of two in any calendar year, a fine of \$5 plus the costs of court.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the fines and costs of court paid under the provisions of this section shall inure to the City of Augusta.

Sec. 6. Removal and impounding of property and vehicles. The Superintendent of Public Buildings, or his successor, shall have the authority to cause the removal and impounding of any property deposited on or found parked on any public way or parking area in violation of the rules and regulations made pursuant to section 2.

The owner of any property so deposited or the owner of any vehicle found parked in violation of said rules and regulations shall pay the cost of such removal and impounding to the State before any such property or vehicle so removed is released by the Superintendent of Public Buildings, or his successor.

The owner of any property or the owner or operator of any vehicle so removed and impounded shall not have any claim for damages to such property or vehicle so removed and impounded, nor shall any one have any claim for the loss of or damage to any property in or upon such vehicle.

Sec. 7. Offenses not covered by rules and regulations. Offenses not covered by the rules and regulations made under the provisions of section 2 shall be dealt with as otherwise provided by law.

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