

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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PUBLIC ACTS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

PASSED BY THE

EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE,

JANUARY SESSION, 1838.

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Published agreeably to the Resolve of June 28, 1820.

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**Chapter 337.**

AN ADDITIONAL ACT to define the powers, duties, and restrictions of Insurance Companies.

**SECTION 1.** *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled,* That it shall be, and hereby is made the duty of all Mutual Fire Insurance Companies, in this State, to set forth in all policies by them issued, in distinct sections, every requirement or rule, the non-compliance with which is intended to vacate said policy; and unless so specified in said policies, no rule, by-law or requirement made by said Company shall have any binding effect on the insured, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Mutual Fire Insurance Companies to specify material requirements in their policies.

—rules not so specified not binding upon insured.

Duties of Officers.

**SECT. 2.** *Be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the officers of said Companies to furnish any member thereof with a copy of said requirements or rules, in the form specified in the preceding section on demand, and also insert the same in the certificate of the renewal of every policy granted by them.

[Approved by the Governor March 22, 1838.]

**Chapter 338.**

AN ACT additional respecting wills and testaments, and regulating the descent of intestate estates.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled,* That every illegitimate child shall be considered as an heir of the person, who shall have been adjudged the putative father of such illegitimate child by any Court of competent jurisdiction, or who shall in writing acknowledge himself to be the father of such child; and in all cases, shall be considered as the heir of his mother, and shall inherit his and her estate, in whole or in part, as the case may be, in the same manner as if he had been born in lawful wedlock, but he shall not be allowed

Illegitimate children made heirs in certain cases.

to claim, as representing his father or mother, any part of the estate of his or her kindred, either lineal or collateral; and if any illegitimate child shall die intestate without lawful issue, his estate shall descend to his mother, or in case of her decease, to her heirs at law.

Estate of such children how to descend.

[Approved by the Governor March 22, 1838.]

### Chapter 339.

AN ADDITIONAL ACT to prevent the introduction of Paupers from foreign ports or places.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled,* That the Mayor and Aldermen of the several cities and the Selectmen of the several towns of this State, may, at their election, dispense with the bond required by the statute to which this is additional, if the master, commanding officer or owner of the ship, vessel or boat in which foreign passengers may arrive from foreign ports, or coastwise, shall, before the landing of such passenger, pay into the Treasury of the city or town, at which such vessel shall arrive, such sum as said Mayor and Aldermen, or Selectmen may think reasonable, not exceeding the sum of five dollars for every foreign passenger whom he may intend to land; to be appropriated as said cities or towns may direct for the support of paupers.

Bonds required of masters of vessels, when dispensed with.

Money received in lieu thereof, how appropriated.

SECT. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That the said cities and towns shall have power respectively to appoint one or more visiting officers, whose duty it shall be, on the arrival of any ship, vessel or boat having on board one or more passengers from foreign ports or places, who have no settlement in this State, to go on board of such ship, vessel or boat, and there remain until the provisions of this Act and the Act to which this is additional shall be complied with. And it shall be the duty of such officer to prevent the land-

Cities and towns empowered to appoint visiting officers.

—their duties.