

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

## SIXTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1891.

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,  
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PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1891.

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SECT. 13. This act shall take effect when approved.

Approved February 12, 1891.

**Chapter 51.**

An Act to promote the efficiency of the Fire Department of the City of Lewiston.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :*

Fire department shall be under control of board of fire commissioners.

Number and election of board.

—tenure.

—qualification of.

Powers and duties.

SECT. 1. The fire department of the city of Lewiston shall hereafter be under the control of a board of fire commissioners.

SECT. 2. Said board shall consist of five members, four of whom shall be elected by the city council by ballot, on the fourth Monday in March, or as soon thereafter as may be convenient; and the mayor of the city for the time being shall be, ex-officio, a member of said commission. The four members first chosen aforesaid, shall serve, one for one year, one for two years, one for three years and one for four years as may be designated by the city council. Thereafter, one shall be elected by ballot annually as aforesaid, to serve for a term of four years, unless sooner removed by concurrent vote of the city council, or when elected to fill an unexpired term; provided, however, that not more than two of the elected members of the board shall at any time be members of the same political party, and they shall be selected from the two parties polling the highest number of votes at the last municipal election. If a member of the board accepts the office of mayor, his place on the board as an elected member becomes vacant and such vacancy shall be filled by the city council. No member of the board shall be eligible to any salaried position under the commission.

SECT. 3. Said board shall under the city council have control of the engine houses, engines, hose and hook and ladder trucks and all apparatus of the fire department. They shall have full power in the selection of a chief engineer, assistant engineers, not to exceed four, superintendent of fire alarm, engineers of steamers, drivers of hose and hook and ladder trucks, engines and all officers and members of hose and hook and ladder companies; provided, however, that no person shall be appointed a member or officer of any company who is not a citizen of Lewiston.

SECT. 4. No person shall be appointed a permanent member of the fire department without a trial of not less than six months, unless such person is at present a member, or has served that time in the department. When a person receives a permanent appointment he shall not be removed by said commission, unless for inefficiency or other causes detrimental to the department. No discrimination shall be made on account of a person's political opinion, nor shall the board of fire commissioners take into account the politics of applicants for trial or permanent places.

Qualification of permanent members of fire department.

—causes for removal.

SECT. 5. The salaries of the members of the hook and ladder and hose companies shall be fixed by the board of fire commissioners on a basis of term of service. The salaries of the chief engineer, assistant engineers, superintendent of fire alarm, engineers of steamers, drivers and all other employes of the department shall be fixed by the city council on the recommendation of the commissioners. The board of fire commissioners shall serve without pay.

Salaries of members of fire companies, how fixed.

SECT. 6. The board shall purchase all supplies necessary for the department and exercise all the duties of the committee on fire department; provided, however, that no engine, hose, hook and ladder or hose truck shall be purchased without a vote of the city council authorizing the same.

Board shall purchase supplies.

—proviso.

SECT. 7. The board shall proceed to reorganize the department according to the spirit of this act. No member of the present companies or department shall be considered a permanent member, until appointed by the board of fire commissioners, which must be done within one year after the organization of said board. The board may make such rules and regulations for the government and efficiency of the department, subject to the approval of the city council, as they may deem advisable and which shall not be inconsistent with the laws of the state and ordinances of the city.

Fire department, shall be organized according to spirit of act.

—board may make rules.

SECT. 8. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act, are hereby repealed.

Inconsistent acts, repealed.

SECT. 9. This act shall take effect March twenty-one, eighteen hundred and ninety-one.

When act shall take effect.

Approved February 13, 1891.