

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

SEVENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1903.

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PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1903.

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**Chapter 158.**

An Act to change time of holding sessions of County Commissioners in Aroostook County.

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

Annual sessions of county commissioners of Aroostook county.

Section 1. Section six, chapter seventy-eight of the revised statutes is hereby amended, so far as it relates to holding annual sessions of the county commissioners in the county of Aroostook, so that that part of said section shall read as follows: 'Aroostook, on the first Tuesdays of January, March, May, July, September and November.'

Section 2. This act shall take effect when approved.

Approved March 26, 1903.

**Chapter 159.**

An Act to amend Section one of Chapter seventy-five of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter one hundred and fifty-seven of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and by Chapters one hundred and ninety-three and one hundred and ninety-six of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, relating to Descent of Real Estate.

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

Section 1 of chapter 75, R. S., as amended by chapter 157, public laws of 1895, and by chapters 193 and 196, public laws of 1897, further amended.

Section 1. Section one of chapter seventy-five of the revised statutes, as amended by chapter one hundred and fifty-seven of the public laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and also as amended by chapters one hundred and ninety-three and one hundred and ninety-six, of the public laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, is hereby further amended so that said section one, as hereby amended, shall read as follows:

Rules for descent.

'Section 1. The real estate of a person deceased intestate, being subject to the payment of debts, including a wood lot or other land used with the farm or dwelling house although not cleared, and also including wild lands of which he dies seized, but excepting wild lands conveyed by him, though afterwards cleared, descends according to the following rules:

Descent to the widow.

'Rule 1. If he leaves a widow and issue, one-third to the widow. If no issue, one-half to the widow. And if no kindred, the whole to the widow. And to the widower shall descend the same shares in his wife's real estate. There shall likewise descend to the widow or widower the same share in all such real estate of which the deceased was seized during coverture, and which has not been barred or released as herein provided. In

—to the widower.

any event, one-third shall descend to the widow or widower free from payment of debts.

—to widow or widower.

'Rule 2. The remainder of which he dies seized, and if no widow or widower, the whole, shall descend in equal shares to his children, and to the lawful issue of a deceased child by right of representation. If no child is living at the time of his death, to all his lineal descendants; equally, if all are of the same degree of kindred; if not, according to the right of representation.

Descent to children.

—to lineal descendants.

'Rule 3. If no such issue, it descends to his father and mother in equal shares.

To father and mother.

'Rule 4. If no such issue or father, it descends one-half to his mother. If no such issue or mother, it descends one-half to his father. In either case, the remainder, or if no such issue, father or mother the whole, descends in equal shares to his brothers and sisters, and when a brother or sister has died, to his or her children or grandchildren by right of representation.

Alternate rules to father or mother.

—brothers and sisters.

'Rule 5. If no such issue, father, brother or sister, it descends to his mother. If no such issue, mother, brother or sister, it descends to his father. In either case, to the exclusion of the issue of deceased brothers and sisters.

'Rule 6. If no such issue, father, mother, brother or sister, it descends to his next of kin in equal degree; when they claim through different ancestors, to those claiming through a nearer ancestor, in preference to those claiming through an ancestor more remote.

Next of kin.

'Rule 7. When a minor dies unmarried, leaving property inherited from either of his parents, it descends to the other children of the same parent, and the issue of those deceased; in equal shares if all are of the same degree of kindred; otherwise, according to the right of representation.

Descent of property of unmarried minor.

'Rule 8. If the intestate leaves no widower, widow or kindred, it escheats to the state.'

Escheats to the state.

Section 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of May, nineteen hundred and three.