

# 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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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28,  
1820, February 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

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PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1903.

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barrels and packages other than ordinary casks the manufacturer shall pay to the inspector of lime casks in his town at the time the return thereof is required to be made, one-half of one mill, and in addition shall pay deputy inspectors who inspect the casks used by such manufacturer; and the inspectors and deputies may recover their fees in an appropriate action.

Penalty for violation.

Section 7. Any person convicted of any violation of the provisions of this act shall be punished by fine not exceeding fifty dollars for each offense.

Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of chapter 39, R. S., repealed.

Section 8. Sections one, two, three, four, five and six of chapter thirty-nine of the revised statutes are hereby repealed.

Inspectors already appointed shall continue till end of term for which appointed.

Section 9. Inspectors and deputy inspectors appointed and qualified under section one, chapter thirty-nine of the revised statutes shall continue as inspectors and deputies under this act for the times for which they were severally appointed.

Approved March 28, 1903.

**Chapter 197.**

An Act to amend Section twelve and following Sections of Chapter forty-three of the Revised Statutes, in relation to Meridian Lines and a Standard of Length.

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

Section 1. Section twelve of chapter forty-three of the revised statutes and the subsequent sections of said chapter are hereby amended so as to read as follows:

County commissioners shall erect and maintain meridian line.

Section 12. The county commissioners, at the expense of their several counties, shall erect and forever maintain therein, at such place or places remote from electrical disturbances as the public convenience requires, a true meridian line to be perpetuated by stone pillars with brass or copper points firmly fixed on the tops thereof, indicating the true range of such meridian; and shall protect the same and provide a book of records to be kept by the clerk of courts, or by a person appointed by them nearer to such structure, and accessible to all persons wishing to refer thereto.

—record to be kept by clerk of courts.

Section 13. Such structures shall be under the care and custody of such clerks; and any surveyor residing in said county or engaged in surveying therein, shall have free access thereto for the purpose of testing the variation of the magnetic needle.

Clerk of courts shall have care and custody of.

Section 14. When such meridian lines have been established and completed every land surveyor shall, at least annually before

Surveyors shall annually verify compass.

making any survey, test and verify his compass, or other instrument using the magnetic needle, by the meridian line so established in the county where his surveys are to be made, and shall enter the declination of such needle from the true meridian in the book mentioned in section twelve, together with the style and make of such instrument and its number, if any, and the date and hour of observation, and subscribe his name thereto for future reference; and shall insert corresponding entries as to date and declination, in his field note books, which field note books shall also show dates at which his surveys are made. Neglect or refusal to comply with the terms of this section shall render such surveyor liable to a penalty of twenty-five dollars for each neglect, to be recovered on complaint in the county where any survey is made, half to the complainant and half to the county.

--shall record declination of needle, etc.

--shall enter same in field note book.

--penalty for neglect.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to such surveys as are made by angles from some fixed, permanent line, or by a solar instrument and independent of the magnetic needle.

--exception.

Section 15. The county commissioners at the expense of the several counties shall also erect and forever maintain therein, at such place or places as the public convenience may require, a standard of length of not less than one hundred feet, with suitable subdivisions marked thereon.

County commissioners shall erect and maintain standard of length.

Such standard may consist of stone monuments permanently fixed with metal plates on the tops thereof, properly marked and protected; or of a steel bar of the necessary length properly marked and suitably placed and protected. All such standards shall be made to correspond with the standard of the United States Bureau of Weights and Measures, and shall be provided with proper means for determining the tension of tapes or chains during comparison.

--monuments to be stone or steel.

Such standards shall be under the care and custody of the clerk of courts, who shall keep a suitable book for the record of comparisons.

--clerk of courts shall have care and custody of standards.

Such standard shall be accessible to any person for comparing any tape, chain, or other linear measure.

--standards shall be accessible.

Every surveyor shall before making surveys in this state, and at least annually, compare his tape or chain used in such surveys with the standard in the county in which he resides or in which surveys are to be made; and shall record the result in the book provided for that purpose, giving description of such tape or chain, with the difference, if any, between the same and such standard, together with the date and temperature and the tension on such tape or chain at the time of comparison. When such standard shall have been completed in any county, any surveyor

--surveyor shall annually compare tape or chain with standard.

--shall record result.

--penalty for neglect.

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residing or making surveys in such county who shall neglect or refuse to comply with the terms of this section, shall be liable to the penalties and disability set forth in section fourteen of this chapter.

Penalty for  
injuring  
meridian  
lines.

Section 16. Whoever wilfully displaces, alters, defaces, breaks, or otherwise injures any of the pillars or points, plates, enclosures, bars, locks, bolts, or any part of the structure of any meridian line or standard of length shall forfeit not exceeding one hundred dollars, to be recovered by indictment, half to the prosecutor and half to the county, and shall also be liable in an action of debt for the amount necessarily expended in repairing damages caused by his act.

Governor and  
council to  
appoint  
commissioner  
to verify  
meridians.

Section 17. When such meridian line or standard of length is established, repaired or rebuilt in any county, the governor and council shall appoint a competent commissioner, not necessarily a resident of this state, to inspect and verify the same. Such commissioner shall in case of a meridian line verify the same by astronomical observation, and in his report shall give an accurate description of such structures, its latitude and longitude, and the declination of the needle at the time; and in case of a standard of length shall give a description of the structure, its location and exact length as determined by comparison with some authentic standard from the United States Bureau of Weights and Measures. All such reports shall be full and accurate and be deposited in the office of the secretary of state, and a certified copy shall be filed and recorded in the office of the clerk of the courts in the county where such structure is situated.

—compensa-  
tion of com-  
missioner.

Such commissioner shall receive from the state such just compensation as the governor and council shall allow.

Approved March 28, 1903.