

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Acts and Resolves

As Passed by the

## Seventy-Eighth Legislature

OF THE

# STATE OF MAINE

1917

Including Acts and Resolves of the Special Session of the  
Seventy-Seventh Legislature held in 1916.

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Published by the Secretary of State, in accordance with the Resolves of the Legislature approved June 28, 1820, March 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

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THE LEWISTON JOURNAL CO.  
LEWISTON, MAINE  
1917

**PUBLIC LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

As Passed by the Seventy-Eighth Legislature

**1917**

[supplied from page 1 of volume]

words 'qualified to serve civil process,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

**'Sec. 20. Summons may be issued by any member of board; may be served by any qualified officer.** When the right of any person to have his name placed upon such list is challenged by any qualified elector, or when the right of any person to have his name remain upon such list is so challenged, before said board shall add to or strike from said list the name of any such person, the board or any member thereof, shall issue a notice and summons to said person so challenged and allow him a reasonable opportunity to be heard. Such notice and summons shall be served upon such person by an officer qualified to serve civil process, by giving him in hand or by leaving at his last and usual place of abode, an attested copy of said notice and summons, at least six hours before the closing of the final session of the board devoted to the revision and correction of the voting list. Said person and said board may also summon and examine other witnesses before said board concerning his right to vote, and if it appears to said board that such person is not or will not be qualified to vote at such election, they shall cause his name to be erased from said list and not add it thereto. And the list of voters in cities made under this chapter shall state the street, and so far as practicable, the number of the street where each voter resides. The residence of a voter as stated upon the list of voters used at the last preceding election shall be deemed his last and usual place of abode, unless he shall have given notice in writing, over his own signature, or in person to the city clerk of a change of his residence, which notice, if given after the first day of April, shall entitle him to have his residence so corrected on the voting list to be used at the next subsequent election, but shall not entitle him to have his registration otherwise changed, nor to vote in ward or precinct other than that in which he resided on said first day of April. Said clerk shall keep a record of all notices of change of residence, which record shall at all times be open to public inspection.'

Approved April 7, 1917.

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## Chapter 238.

An Act to Amend Section Thirteen of Chapter Seven of the Revised Statutes, Relating to Duties of Election Clerks.

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

**R. S., c. 7, § 13, relating to the appointment of clerks at polling places, amended.** Section thirteen of chapter seven of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the word "witness" in the twenty-fourth and thirty-sixth lines thereof, and substituting therefor the words 'assist in', so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

**'Sec. 13. Clerks shall assist in counting ballots.** The municipal officers of cities, towns and plantations voting in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, shall biennially in the month of May appoint clerks for each polling place; and such municipal officers shall appoint as such clerks such

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persons as shall be recommended for such appointment by the several political party committees of the several cities, towns or plantations, representing the two political parties, which at the gubernatorial election next preceding such appointment, cast the greatest number of votes. For each polling place in cities and towns four clerks, and for each polling place in plantations, and for each island ward of the city of Portland and for the island district of the town of Cumberland two clerks shall be appointed. Said clerks shall equally represent each of the political parties which cast the largest number of votes in the state election next preceding their appointment. Each of said clerks shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his duties, and shall hold office for two years from the date of his appointment, and until a successor is appointed, and qualified, or he vacates the office. Vacancies occurring in the office of election or ballot clerks shall be forthwith filled by the municipal officers in towns and plantations and by the mayors of cities in manner hereinbefore provided. Such election clerks shall attend at the times and places designated for meetings in their respective wards, towns or plantations for the election of any national, state, county, city or ward officers, and for the determination of any question submitted to the qualified voters of any city by lawful authority, shall be present at and assist in the counting by the presiding election officer or officers of all votes cast in such meetings, and shall receive such reasonable compensation for each day's actual service as the municipal officers of their respective cities, towns and plantations may determine. And on the recommendation of the political party committee of any other party represented on the official ballot, said municipal officers shall appoint one such election clerk in each polling place, for such political party, who shall be qualified for the performance of his duties, in like manner as the clerks of the two before mentioned parties, shall hold office for a like term, or for such part thereof as the party for which he is appointed maintains its right to be represented upon the official ballot, and who during said term shall have like rights and duties with the before mentioned clerks to be present at and assist in the counting of votes, and shall serve with or without compensation as the municipal officers in any case may deem advisable, vacancies occurring in case of said clerks to be filled as in case of other clerks herein mentioned. No person shall be eligible to the position of election clerk in any ward, town or plantation where he is a candidate to be voted for. Two of the clerks in each polling place, one from each political party, shall be detailed by the municipal officers to act as ballot clerks. The two ballot clerks thus detailed and appointed in each polling place shall have the charge of the ballots therein and shall furnish them to the voters in the manner hereinafter set forth. A duplicate list of the qualified voters in each ward, town or plantation shall be prepared for the use of the ballot clerks, and all the provisions of law relative to the preparation, furnishing and preservation of check lists shall apply to such duplicate lists. Provisions in the charter of any city for the election of two persons to assist the warden in receiving, sorting and counting the ballots, are not affected by the provisions hereof; but persons so elected shall be deemed election clerks for that purpose; they shall equally represent the two political parties which at the state election next preceding cast the greatest number of votes.'

Approved April 7, 1917.