

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Acts and Resolves

As Passed by the

## Seventy-Ninth Legislature

OF THE

# STATE OF MAINE

1919

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

As Passed by the Seventy-Ninth Legislature

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**CHAP. 218**

ment; and if it appears to the governor and council that an emergency exists requiring extensions in any normal school prior to the year nineteen hundred and twenty-one they are hereby authorized to provide such amounts as in their judgment may be necessary therefor out of such funds as are not otherwise appropriated.

Approved April 4, 1919.

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## Chapter 218.

An Act Relating to Exemption from Poll Taxes.

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

**Soldiers and sailors of European war exempt from poll tax 1917-1919.** Soldiers and sailors who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war against Germany and Austria shall be exempted from the payment of poll taxes for the years nineteen hundred and seventeen, nineteen hundred and eighteen and nineteen hundred and nineteen, but poll taxes that have already been paid by said soldiers and sailors for one or more of the within named years shall not be refunded.

Approved April 4, 1919.

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## Chapter 219.

An Act for the Care and Preservation of Shade and Ornamental Trees.

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

**Sec. 1. Trees within highway limit public shade trees.** All trees within or upon the limits of any highway marked as hereinafter provided are hereby declared to be public shade trees. The tree wardens in the several cities and towns, as soon as may be after they are appointed as hereinafter provided, shall carefully examine the trees along the highways under their jurisdiction and plainly mark such trees as they consider should be controlled by the municipality. The forest commissioner shall furnish to the municipal officers of the several cities and towns, at cost, galvanized iron disks not more than one inch in diameter, which disks shall have stamped on them the letter "M." Said disk shall be inserted in each tree, selected as above provided, at a point not less than three feet nor more than six feet from the ground on the side toward the highway. It shall be the duty of the tree warden, if any tree marker shall be destroyed or defaced, to renew or replace the same.

**Sec. 2. Park commissioners to have supervision of trees.** All public shade trees shall be under the care and control of park commissioners in cities and towns which now or hereafter may appoint such commissioners

in accordance with sections eighty-four to ninety-three inclusive of chapter four of the revised statutes. As to all such trees said park commissioners shall have the powers and duties hereinafter conferred upon tree wardens.

**Sec. 3. Tree wardens; appointment and duties of.** The municipal officers of cities and towns not having elected park commissioners as provided by sections eighty-four to ninety-three, inclusive, of chapter four of the revised statutes, may at any annual meeting or meetings called for that purpose appoint one or more tree wardens, who shall have the care and control of all public shade trees upon and along such highways and in the parks thereof and all streets within any village limits and shall enforce all laws relative to the preservation of the same.

**Sec. 4. Comparative powers of owners of soil and tree wardens as to removal of trees.** Public shade trees may be trimmed, cut down, or removed by the owner of the soil only with the consent of a tree warden or park commissioner, but such trees shall not be trimmed, cut down, or removed in any case by a tree warden or park commissioner except with the consent of such owner. Nothing in this section, however, shall be construed to prevent the trimming, cutting or removal of trees where such trimming, cutting or removal is ordered by proper authority to lay out, alter or widen the location of highways, to lessen the danger of travel on highways or to suppress tree pests or insects.

**Sec. 5. Appropriation for compensation of tree wardens.** Cities and towns may appropriate at any annual or special town meeting money not exceeding fifty cents for each taxable poll in each year to be used in making compensation to tree wardens, and in acquiring, planting, pruning and protecting shade trees.

**Sec. 6. Penalty for violation.** Whosoever trims, cuts or otherwise defaces or destroys a public shade tree or injures, defaces, or destroys any tree marker attached in accordance with section one hereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars to be paid to the city or town in which the offense is committed, and expended by said city or town for the purposes outlined in this act as the same may be amended from time to time.

**Sec. 7. Free distribution of trees for roadside planting.** The forest commissioner may provide and distribute free of charge at the state nursery, to the several cities and towns, trees for roadside planting.

**Sec. 8. Failure of municipalities to appoint wardens; provisions of § 6 not applicable.** When the municipal officers in any year fail to appoint tree wardens in accordance with section three of this act the provisions of section six shall not apply to previously marked trees in accordance with this act.