

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

Eighty-first Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1923

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

As Passed by the Eighty-First Legislature

**1923**

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## Chapter 208.

An Act to Amend Chapter Six of the Revised Statutes of Nineteen Hundred and Sixteen and Amendments Thereto, Relating to Primary and Caucus Law.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 6, sec. 48; relating to political caucus law, amended.** Section forty-eight of chapter six of the revised statutes is hereby amended, by omitting from the third line thereof the words "nor to cities of more than thirty-five thousand inhabitants," so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

'Sec. 48. Provisions apply to cities of more than 35,000 unless regulated by special law. The provisions of the eleven preceding sections shall not apply to towns of less than two thousand inhabitants, nor to cities wherein the calling and holding of caucuses is regulated by special law until such special law is repealed.'

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 6, sec. 50, 51 and 52; repealed.** Sections fifty, fifty-one and fifty-two of chapter six of the revised statutes are hereby repealed.

**Sec. 3. General law relating to political caucuses made applicable to cities of over 35,000; exceptions; caucuses to be held 2d Wednesday of November; preparation of ballots; enrollment, how accomplished.** Chapter six of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section as follows:

'Caucuses and meetings of political parties in cities of over thirty-five thousand held for the purpose of naming candidates or choosing delegates to assemble in convention to nominate any person to any public office, for whose election the charter of any such city provides, and whose name shall be placed on the final ballot, shall be held as now or hereafter prescribed by the statutes of the state of Maine, relating to political party caucuses, except as hereinafter provided.

'Only those voters enrolled as qualified to vote in such caucuses, as hereinafter provided, shall participate therein; the caucuses of all political parties, entitled by law to nominate candidates to be voted upon at the next succeeding municipal election, shall be held in the several wards of said city on the second Wednesday of November, in each year, on which day the polls will be opened at three o'clock in the afternoon and continue open until nine o'clock in the afternoon, when they shall close. Said caucuses shall be conducted by the same officers as elected at the preceding municipal election to have charge of such municipal elections, or their successors in office. No person shall vote at any such caucus unless a legally qualified voter in the ward where any such caucus is held, nor

unless enrolled as qualified to vote in a particular political party, then entitled to hold such caucus.

“The city clerk of said city shall, in season for such caucuses, prepare suitable ballots containing the names of all persons to be nominated at such caucus and of a distinguishing color for each political party. Every person legally qualified to vote in such caucuses shall receive, upon application, at such caucuses, to the proper election officer, a ballot marked and designated by such distinguishing color as the ballot of that political party in which he is then enrolled and shall not be entitled to receive, nor shall such election officer deliver to him, any other ballot.

“Every legally qualified voter of said city shall continue to be enrolled as a voter in the political party in which he is now enrolled, and when so enrolled, shall not be entitled to change such enrollment for the purposes of any of said caucuses within six months next prior to the date of the holding of such caucus. Any voter not previously enrolled may enroll himself before the board of registration at any time up to within thirty days of the date of said caucus or during said caucus by subscribing and making oath to the following statement before the chairman of the caucus: “I, ....., do solemnly swear that I am a qualified voter in this city and ward, and have the legal right to vote in the caucus of the ..... party. I am a member of that political party and intend to vote for its candidates at the election next ensuing. I have not taken part or voted at the caucus of any other political party in the six months last past,” and upon such enrollment shall be permitted to vote. The warden shall indorse on every such enrollment blank, whether the person subscribing and swearing to the same voted at said caucus and shall return the same at the close of said caucus to the board of registration and said board of registration shall thereupon enroll said voter in the enrollment list of the party designated by him. Said enrollment blank and the statement thereon shall be preserved as a public record and shall be prima facie evidence in any court that said person took said oath and voted in said caucus. The warden may appoint and swear to the faithful performance of their duties such number of enrollment clerks to assist him as may be required, who shall have power to take the oath required of any person so enrolling at said caucus. All enrollment blanks shall contain the form of statement and oath hereinbefore described but shall otherwise be in such form as the city clerk shall prescribe. The board of registration shall make up and certify, in season for such caucuses, true and correct lists of all the persons legally entitled to vote in said city, after the same have been corrected, in accordance with the last registration of voters therein, and shall indicate on such lists of voters the political party, if any, in which each of said voters is enrolled; said lists, as so prepared by

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said board of registration, shall not be altered or amended by any person whatsoever, except said board of registration, and then only upon application to change his enrollment made by a person listed thereon as a legally qualified voter, which application shall not be made to said board within six months prior to the date of the holding of any such caucuses. Such lists, as prepared, shall at the time of the holding of such caucuses, be delivered to the warden in each of said wards and shall be used in said wards for the purposes of holding said caucuses and shall be returned intact to said board of registration, after said caucuses are closed, and shall be preserved by said board of registration until the same are superseded by new lists, prepared by said board. Said board of registration shall supply to the political committees of each such political party such number of the copies of such lists and the enrollments noted thereon, as may be reasonably required for the purposes of said committees.'

Approved April 5, 1923.

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## Chapter 209.

An Act to Establish a Teachers' Retirement System.

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

**Sec. 1. Teachers' retirement system established.** The Maine teachers' retirement system, hereinafter called the retirement system, is hereby established, to become effective on July first, nineteen hundred twenty-four.

**Sec. 2. Definitions.** The following words and phrases as used in this act shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Teacher" shall mean any teacher, principal, supervisor, or superintendent employed in any day school within the state; also a teacher or principal of a normal school, the state superintendent or his assistants and teachers who teach in any school which is supported at least three-fifths by state or town appropriations.

(2) "Public School" shall mean any public school conducted within the state under the authority and supervision of a duly elected board of education or superintending school committee.

(3) "Year" as used in this act referring to the term of school service of a teacher shall mean the same as "school year" defined in the general laws of the state at the time when the school service in question was rendered, provided, however, that the retirement board may in special cases determine what school service shall constitute the equivalent of a specified period of service under this act.