

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

Eighty-second Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1925

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Eighty-second Legislature

1925

[supplied from page 1 of volume]

Chapter 106.

An Act Relating to the Appointment of Election Clerks of Polling Places.

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

P. L., 1919, c. 266; relating to appointment of election clerks, repealed; R. S., c. 7, sec. 13; P. L., 1917, c. 238; relating to appointment of clerks at polling places, amended. Chapter two hundred and sixty-six of the public laws of nineteen hundred and nineteen is hereby repealed, and section thirteen of chapter seven of the revised statutes as amended by chapter two hundred and thirty-eight of the public laws of nineteen hundred and seventeen is hereby amended, by adding the following words: 'Provided, however, that the municipal officers of cities, towns and plantations, may, when necessity requires, appoint additional election clerks for each polling place in cities, towns and plantations and for each island ward of the city of Portland and for the island district of the town of Cumberland, who shall be sworn and shall assist the election officers in the several voting precincts of the state. Said additional clerks shall be recommended and appointed in the same manner, hold office for the same time and receive the same compensation as is provided for regular election clerks under this section,' so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

'Sec. 13. Provision made for appointment of additional election clerks when necessity requires. 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 persons as shall be recommended for such appointment by the several political party committees of the several cities, town 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,

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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. Provided, however, that the municipal officers of cities, towns and plantations, may, when necessity requires, appoint additional election clerks for each polling place in cities, towns and plantations and for each island ward of the city of Portland and for the island district of the town of Cumberland, who shall be sworn and shall assist the election officers in the several voting precincts of the state. Said additional clerks shall be recommended and appointed in the same manner, hold office for the same time and receive the same compensation as is provided for regular election clerks under this section.'

Approved April 2, 1925.