

# 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]

## CHAP. 144

exceed the sum of one thousand dollars annually,' so that said section as amended, shall read as follows :

'Sec. 4. Provision made for holding a state seed improvement meeting; may offer prizes for excellence in poultry display. He shall, in connection with, and with the aid of the Maine Dairymen's Association, annually hold a state dairymen's conference for the exhibit of dairy products and appliances, wherein prizes for high merit and quality in butter and cheese may be offered, and may employ experts and lecturers to enhance dairy interests, but the expenses of the same shall not exceed the sum of seven hundred dollars annually. He shall, also in connection with, and with the aid of the Maine Seed Improvement Association, annually hold a state seed improvement meeting for the exhibition of seeds adapted to the soil of Maine, wherein prizes for high merit in quality and variety may be offered, and may employ experts and lecturers to advocate the use of improved seed by the farmers of the state, but the total expense for such prizes and lecturers shall not exceed the sum of one thousand dollars annually. He may also in connection with, and with the aid of the several poultry associations of the state offer prizes for excellence in displays of poultry and poultry products, but the amount of the same shall not exceed the sum of one thousand dollars annually.'

Approved April 4, 1925.

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## Chapter 144.

An Act to Enlarge the Powers of the State Highway Police and to Confer upon the Secretary of State Jurisdiction to Suspend or Revoke Registration of Motor Vehicles and Operators' Licenses.

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

**Sec. 1. Appointment of chief of state highway police and members of force, provided for; appointment of deputy.** The governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall appoint a chief of the state highway police, to serve during their pleasure. The chief shall be the executive head of the state highway police and shall execute the duties of his office under the direction and subject to the approval of the governor and council. The governor, with the advice and consent of the council, upon recommendation of the chief of the state highway police, may appoint suitable persons as members of the state highway police to enforce the provisions of this act, who shall hold office during the pleasure of said chief. Subject to the approval of the governor and council, the chief may designate a member of the state highway police to act as his deputy.

**Sec. 2. Duties and powers of state highway police; subject to call of governor in emergency cases.** The specific duties of the state highway police shall be to patrol the state highways and other important ways, especially outside the compact portion of cities and towns, for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this act and all laws relating to motor driven and horse drawn vehicles and all rules and regulations in regard thereto, and of arresting all violators thereof and prosecuting all offenders against the same. The chief and members of the state highway police shall have the same power to serve criminal processes against such offenders as sheriffs and also the same power as sheriffs have to arrest without warrant and detain persons found violating or attempting to violate any other penal law of the state until a legal warrant can be obtained. They shall immediately report by telephone or other expeditious means to the proper authorities all information and complaints by them received concerning the commission of any crime, and shall have the same rights as sheriffs to require aid in executing the duties of their office. They may serve any subpoenas, notices and processes issued by the secretary of state or the state highway commission under authority of this act or chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one and acts amendatory thereof. They shall also at all times be subject to the call of the governor for emergency purposes at his discretion.

The state highway police, sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, constables, city marshals and deputy marshals and police officers of cities and towns shall so far as possible cooperate in the detection of crime, the arrest and prosecution of criminals, and the preservation of law and order throughout the state.

**Sec. 3. State highway police to be provided with uniform and equipment; to be in uniform when on duty; not to hold any other office.** Members of the state highway police shall be provided at the expense of the state with a distinctive uniform and badge, and with suitable equipment, including motorcycles for use when requisite to the performance of their official duties, all of which shall remain the property of the state. When on duty to enforce the laws of the road, and at such other times as the chief may require, state highway policemen shall be in uniform. They shall hold no other office during their term of service.

**Sec. 4. Members of state highway police may be assigned to special duty as inspectors; shall cooperate with secretary of state and aid state highway commission.** Members of the state highway police may be designated and assigned to special duty as inspectors to enforce the laws, rules and regulations relating to the registration of motor vehicles and the licensing of operators of motor vehicles; but assignment to special duty

**CHAP. 144**

shall not affect their powers as state highway police. Such inspectors shall cooperate with and assist the secretary of state in the collection of fees and penalties due the state under the laws relating to the registration of motor vehicles and the licensing of operators of such vehicles. They shall also aid the state highway commission in the enforcement of its rules and orders and permits pertaining to the use of highways.

**Sec. 5. Salary and compensation how fixed; shall be sworn and give bond; not to receive fees as witnesses or complainants.** The governor and council shall determine the salary of the chief and the compensation of the other members of the state highway police. Before entering upon the duties of their office they shall be sworn and shall give bond to the treasurer of state with surety, or sureties approved by the treasurer of state conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties of their office, as follows: the chief shall give bond in the sum of five thousand dollars and each of the other members in the sum of two thousand dollars. No inspector or member of the state highway police shall receive any fee as a complainant or witness, or for making an arrest or for attendance at court, but shall be reimbursed by the state for his actual costs of arrest and actual expenses of travel and attendance. Whenever any fines or penalties are imposed by any court in any proceeding in which a member of the state highway police is a complainant or a witness, said court may tax costs for such complainant or witness in the usual manner. He shall receipt for same when paid and immediately transmit it to the chief, who shall pay forthwith the same to the treasurer of state.

**Sec. 6. Powers and duties of state highway commission relating to revocation and suspension operators' licenses and registrations, promulgating rules relating to lamps, lights, and brakes transferred to secretary of state; records to be in custody of secretary.** All powers and duties now vested by statute in the state highway commission pertaining to the registration and marking of vehicles, making and promulgating rules and regulations as to lamps, lights, and brakes, the revocation or suspension of operators' licenses and the suspension or revocation of registrations of motor vehicles, including complaints, hearings and all matters set forth in sections twenty-eight and thirty-five to forty-three inclusive, of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one as amended, concerning the powers and duties of said state highway commission with respect to such hearings, suspensions or revocations, are hereby transferred to and imposed and conferred upon the secretary of state; and wherever in said chapter the words "the commission" are used respecting said transfer of such powers and duties, said words shall mean the secretary of state. All such proceedings, pending before the state highway commission at the time this act takes effect,

shall be transferred to and reheard or decided by the secretary of state as justice may require. All existing rules, orders and decisions of the state highway commission made in said matters and in force when this act takes effect shall continue until modified or reversed by the secretary of state. In the absence of the secretary of state his deputy may act in any matter. The secretary of state shall have custody and control of all dockets, papers, and records of the state highway commission pertaining to said rules and the suspension or revocation of said licenses and registrations.

**Sec. 7. Maintenance of state highway police provided for.** Payment of the expense of maintenance of the state highway police shall be made as heretofore provided by chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one for the maintenance of the state highway police; but shall not exceed one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars for each year.

**Sec. 8. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 25; repealed.** Section twenty-five of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby repealed.

**Sec. 9. Inconsistent acts repealed.** All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved April 6, 1925.

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## Chapter 145.

An Act to Make Uniform the Registration of Married Women as Voters.

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

**Sec. 1. Married women to be registered under given and married surname.** Every married woman now registered, or who shall hereafter register as a voter, shall be registered under her given and married surname.

**Sec. 2. Registered women voters to notify registration board of change in surname.** Whenever an unmarried registered woman voter shall assume through marriage, or a married registered woman voter shall assume through any process of law a new surname, she shall notify the registration board of said change, in person, and the board shall then re-register in accordance with the preceding section.

Approved April 7, 1925.