

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINTH REVISION

REVISED STATUTES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

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FIRST ANNOTATED REVISION

IN FIVE VOLUMES

VOLUME 2



THE MICHIE COMPANY, Inc.
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

Chapter 39.

Maine Development Commission.

History of chapter.—See *State v. Vahlsing, Inc.*, 147 Me. 417, 88 A. (2d) 144.

Sec. 1. Maine development commission.—The Maine development commission, as heretofore established, shall consist of 12 members. Said commission shall be constituted as follows: the governor, the commissioner of agriculture, the commissioner of inland fisheries and game, the commissioner of sea and shore fisheries, the forest commissioner, and 7 other citizens of the state to be appointed by the governor and confirmed by the council. Said official members shall hold office during their respective terms. The other appointments shall be for a term of 3 years.

The commission shall choose one of its members to act as chairman. (R. S. c. 35, § 1. 1945, c. 156, § 1. 1951, c. 42.)

Sec. 2. Appropriations; duties.—The purpose of the appropriation is for the advertising and publicly setting forth and displaying agricultural, industrial and recreational resources, activities and attractions of the state. Thirty-seven and one-half per cent of the total appropriation shall be expended in equal proportions for the purpose of advertising and promoting the agricultural products of the state, advertising and promoting the sea and shore fishing products of the state, and advertising and promoting industries in the state. The commission shall also be empowered to carry on research in relation to the agricultural, industrial, recreational and natural resources of the state. The commission shall arrange for, authorize and supervise the expenditure of all money appropriated under the provisions of this section and shall have full authority to execute contracts for the preparation, publication, dissemination and furnishing of information incidental to the purposes of this chapter. The members of the commission may be recompensed for their expenses incurred in the performance of their duties but shall not receive any salary. Expenditures authorized by the provisions of this chapter shall be paid for only on vouchers approved by the commission and the state controller. (R. S. c. 35, § 2. 1945, c. 156, § 2; c. 380, § 1.)

Cross references.—See 1943, c. 353, and 1945, c. 357, re duties regarding post war planning; c. 16, §§ 231, 232, re use of money received from tax on potatoes; c. 16, § 267, re use of money from tax on sardines.

Appropriation is for benefit of agriculture as an industry.—The promotion of the agricultural industry has been a recognized governmental activity in this state for many years and money raised by taxation for the benefit of agriculture as an industry, as distinguished from direct grants to those engaged therein, has been provided by legislative action. *State v. Vahlsing, Inc.*, 147 Me. 417, 88 A. (2d) 144.

And not primarily for benefit of individuals engaged therein.—The money expended for the promotion of state industry is not primarily expended for the benefit of those individuals engaged therein but for the benefit of the people as a whole by making available to any and all who may wish to enter into the industry the special-

ized knowledge and information that will enable them to carry the same on, and prospects of a market for that which they produce. *State v. Vahlsing, Inc.*, 147 Me. 417, 88 A. (2d) 144.

Money received from particular tax to be used to further interest in state as a whole.—The entire amount received from the potato tax (see c. 16, § 231) beyond that required for expenses of collection and administration is to be used by the Maine agricultural experiment station under the supervision of the Maine development commission to investigate and determine better methods of production, shipment, and merchandising potatoes; and for merchandising and advertising Maine potatoes. In other words, so far as used for advertising, these funds are to be used for advertising the state of Maine by advertising the Maine potato. *State v. Vahlsing, Inc.*, 147 Me. 417, 88 A. (2d) 144.

Sec. 3. Statement.—It shall be and is declared to be the policy of the state of Maine to encourage the settlement within its borders of displaced persons of Baltic origin; provided nevertheless that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to discourage immigrants of other nationalities. (1947, c. 258. 1949, c. 349, § 57.)

Sec. 4. Settlements.—The Maine development commission is empowered and authorized to negotiate with the U. S. Department of State, with the U. S. Department of Justice and with the United Nations or with any proper agency or department of the United Nations, to arrange for the settlement in this state of such displaced persons of Baltic origin who are able to buy, or who may have bought for them, private property within the state owned by private persons. (1947, c. 258. 1949, c. 349, § 57.)

Sec. 5. Unencumbered balances.—At the end of any fiscal year the commission may, with the approval of the governor and council, carry forward as a reserve unencumbered appropriation balances not to exceed \$50,000. Any excess unencumbered balance over this amount shall lapse. (R. S. c. 35, § 3. 1945, c. 156, § 3.)

Sec. 6. State geologist.—The Maine development commission shall employ a state geologist to serve at the pleasure of the commission. The commission shall also employ such assistants as are deemed necessary, subject to the provisions of the personnel law. The state geologist and such assistants shall perform such duties as shall be required of them by law or assigned to them by the commission. (R. S. c. 35, § 4.)

See c. 40, § 1, re Maine mining bureau.