

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1865.

AUGUSTA:

STEVENS & SAYWARD, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1865.

FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 1.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIVE.

AN ACT to make valid the acts and doings of cities, towns, and plantations, in voting and making provision for the payment of bounties to volunteers, drafted men and their substitutes, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :

SECTION 1. The acts and doings of cities, towns and
2 plantations, since February twenty, eighteen hundred
3 sixty-four, in offering, paying, agreeing to pay, and
4 in raising and providing the means to pay bounties to
5 volunteers, drafted men or their substitutes, who have
6 been, or shall hereafter be, actually mustered into the

7 military or naval service of the United States, are
8 hereby made valid.

SECT. 2. All contracts made by the municipal offi-
2 cers of any city, town, or plantation, that has voted to
3 raise bounties, with any such volunteer, drafted man,
4 or substitute, for the payment of the bounty thus
5 voted, and all contracts made by said officers or their
6 duly authorized agents, with third persons, corpora-
7 tions, or associations, for the purpose of raising means
8 to pay such bounties so voted, are hereby made valid.

SECT. 3. All contracts made by such municipal offi-
2 cers, or by third persons, in behalf of any city, town,
3 or plantation, but without previous authority therefor,
to pay bounties to volunteers, drafted men or their
5 substitutes, or to raise money to pay such bounties,
6 where such volunteers, drafted men or substitutes have
7 been, or hereafter shall be, actually mustered into the
8 military or naval service of the United States, may be
9 ratified and confirmed by said city, town, or planta-
10 tion, and such ratification made or hereafter to be
11 made, shall be valid and binding.

SECT. 4. All votes of cities, towns, and plantations,
2 to pay expenses of recruiting for their several quotas,

3 and all contracts in pursuance of such votes, where
4 expenses have been or may hereafter be incurred upon
5 the strength thereof, are hereby made valid.

SECT. 5. Any city, town, or plantation having voted,
2 or that shall so vote, may fund the debt incurred in
3 raising means to pay the bounties and expenses author-
4 ized by this act or any prior act of the legislature, and
5 may issue bonds therefor, with coupons attached, for
6 interest at a rate not exceeding six per cent. per an-
7 num, payable semi-annually, said bonds redeemable
8 any time within twenty years from the date of their
9 issue ; such bonds to be signed by the mayor and
10 treasurer of cities ; the treasurer and selectmen or
11 major part thereof of towns ; the treasurer and assess-
12 ors or major part thereof of plantations. The treasu-
13 rer's signature only to the coupons shall be required.

SECT. 6. All taxes that have been assessed to raise
2 funds to pay bounties, or to fulfil contracts for the ob-
3 jects named in this act, are hereby made valid.

SECT. 7. Authority is hereby conferred upon cities,
2 towns, and plantations, to offer, pay, agree to pay,
3 bounties to volunteers, drafted men or their substitutes,
4 required to fill their quotas under any call for soldiers

5 by the president or government of the United States
6 heretofore made, where such volunteers, drafted men,
7 or substitutes have been, or shall hereafter be, actually
8 mustered into the military or naval service of the
9 United States, and to assume and pay to persons or
10 associations where they have advanced the bounty to
11 such volunteer, drafted man, or substitute ; *provided*,
12 that no bounty shall be paid by any city, town, or
13 plantation, nor from the treasury of the state, to any
14 person enlisted or mustered into the military or naval
15 service of the United States prior to the second day of
16 February, eighteen hundred sixty-four, except upon
17 his subsequent re-enlistment and muster into such ser-
18 vice.

SECT. 8. Authority is hereby conferred upon cities,
2 towns, and plantations, to assess and collect in the
3 usual mode, all taxes necessary to provide the means
4 to pay the bounties, contracts, and expenses author-
5 ized or confirmed and made valid by this act.

SECT. 9. Nothing in this act shall be construed as
2 making so much of any contract herein referred to
3 valid, as shall be usurious by existing laws.

SECT. 10. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent
2 with this act are hereby repealed.

SECT. 11. This act takes effect when approved.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 13, 1865. }

Read twice, and, on motion of Mr. WILLIAMS of Augusta,
laid on the table, and 350 copies ordered to be printed for the use
of the Legislature.

HORACE STILSON, *Clerk.*