

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1865.

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1865.

FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 12.

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 substitutes of drafted and enrolled men, and for other purposes.

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

SECTION 1. The past acts and doings of cities, towns
2 and plantations in offering, paying, agreeing to pay,
3 and in raising and providing the means to pay bounties
4 to, and all votes and town orders given by the munic-
5 ipal officers of any city, town or plantation in pursu-
6 ance of a previous vote, for the benefit of volunteers,
7 drafted men, or substitutes of drafted or enrolled men,

8 who have been or shall hereafter be actually mustered
9 into the military or naval service of the United States,
10 are hereby made valid.

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

SECT. 3. All contracts heretofore made by such mu-
2 nicipal officers, or by third persons, in behalf of any
3 city, town or plantation, but without previous author-
4 ity therefor, to pay bounties to such volunteers, drafted
5 men or substitutes, or to raise money to pay such
6 bounties where such volunteers, drafted men or substi-
7 tutes have been or hereafter shall be actually mustered
8 into the military or naval service of the United States,
9 may be ratified and confirmed by said city, town or
10 plantation.

SECT. 4. All votes of cities, towns or plantations to
2 pay expenses of recruiting for their several quotas, and
3 all contracts heretofore made in pursuance of such
4 votes, are hereby made valid.

SECT. 5. 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. 6. Authority is hereby conferred upon cities,
2 towns and plantations to offer, pay and agree to pay
3 bounties to volunteers, drafted men or substitutes re-
4 quired 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 or
7 substitutes have been or shall hereafter be actually mus-
8 tered into the military or naval service of the United
9 States, and to assume and pay to persons or associa-
10 tions, where they have advanced the bounty to such
11 volunteer, drafted man or substitute ; *provided*, that
12 no bounty shall be paid from the treasury of the state
13 to any person enlisted or mustered into the service of
14 the United States prior to the second day of February,
15 eighteen hundred and sixty-four, except upon his sub-
16 sequent re-enlistment and muster into such service.

SECT. 7. It shall be the duty of cities, towns and
2 plantations to assess and collect in the usual mode of
3 taxation not less than twenty-five per cent. annually,
4 commencing with the current year, of the amount
5 necessary to pay the bounties, contracts and expenses
6 authorized or legalized by this act, arising since the
7 twentieth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-

8 four, until the whole shall be paid; and it is hereby
9 made the duty of the assessors of cities, towns and
10 plantations to assess, and of collectors of taxes to col-
11 lect and pay over to the treasurer the taxes provided
12 for in this section.

SECT. 8. Nothing in this act shall be construed as
2 making valid, so much of any contract herein referred
3 to, as shall be usurious by existing laws.

SECT. 9. No bounty shall be paid from the state
2 treasury to any volunteer, drafted man or substitute
3 enlisted or drafted since the second day of February
4 now last past, excepting upon calls for troops already
5 made by the president or government of the United
6 States.

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

SECT. 11. This act shall take effect when approved
2 by the governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, {
January 27, 1865. }

Reported by Mr. GRANGER, from the Committee on the Ju-
diciary.

HORACE STILSON, *Clerk.*