

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE **NO. 161**

House of Representatives, Feb. 8, 1917.

Referred to Committee on Insane Hospitals and five hundred copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Fleming of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN**

AN ACT to Amend Section 17 of Chapter 145 of the Revised Statutes of 1916 relating to the Examination and Commitment of Persons to Insane Hospitals.

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

Section seventeen of chapter one hundred forty-five of
2 the Revised Statutes of nineteen hundred sixteen is hereby
3 amended by inserting after the word "trustees" in the nine-
4 tenth line thereof, the words 'Pending the issue of such
5 certificate by the municipal officers, the said superintendent
6 may receive into such hospital any person whose condition

7 is such that restraint or detention is necessary for his com-
8 fort and safety, provided however that said superintendent
9 is satisfied that proceedings for commitment of such per-
10 son have been or are about to be commenced,' so that said
11 section as amended, shall read as follows:

12 'Insane persons not thus sent to any hospital shall be sub-
13 ject to examination as hereinafter provided herein. The
14 municipal officers of towns shall constitute a board of ex-
15 aminers and on complaint in writing of any blood-relative,
16 husband or wife of said alleged insane person or of any
17 justice of the peace, they shall immediately inquire into the
18 condition of any person in said town alleged to be insane;
19 shall appoint a time and place for a hearing by them of
20 the allegations of said complaint and shall cause to be given
21 in hand to the person so alleged to be insane at least twenty-
22 four hours prior to the time of said hearing, a true copy
of said complaint together with notice of the time and place
of said hearing and that he has the right and will be given
opportunity then and there to be heard in the matter; shall
call before them all testimony necessary for a full under-
standing of the case; and if they think such person insane
and that his comfort and safety or that of others inter-
ested will thereby be promoted, they shall forthwith send
him to one of the insane hospitals with a certificate stating
the fact of his insanity and in the town in which he re-
sided or was found at the time of examination and direct-
ing the superintendent to receive and detain him until he is

23 restored or discharged by law or by the superintendent or
24 trustees, pending the issue of such certificate by the munici-
25 pal officers the said superintendent may receive into said
26 hospital any person whose condition is such that restraint
27 or detention is necessary for his comfort and safety, pro-
28 vided however that said superintendent is satisfied that pro-
29 ceedings for commitment of such person has been or are
30 about to be commenced. They shall keep a record of their
31 doings and furnish a copy to any interested person re-
32 questing and paying for it.'