

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

NEW DRAFT

SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 464

House of Representatives, March 20, 1919.

Tabled pending acceptance of report by Mr. Bragdon and
500 copies ordered printed.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND
NINE HUNDRED AND NINETEEN

AN ACT to Amend Sections Forty, Forty-one, Forty-two,
Forty-three, Forty-seven and Forty-eight of Chapter Six-
teen of the Revised Statutes Relating to Medical Inspection
of School Children.

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

Sections forty, forty-one, forty-two, forty-three, forty-
2 seven and forty-eight of chapter sixteen of the revised
3 statutes are hereby amended by striking out all of said
4 sections and substituting therefor the following, so that
5 said sections when amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 40. It shall be the duty of all towns or cities in
2 the state having a school enrolment of more than one

3 thousand pupils according to the last return of the super-
4 intendent of schools to install medical inspection of school
5 children and to provide school nurses on or before the
6 close of the year nineteen hundred twenty; of all towns
7 and cities in the state with a school enrolment of five hun-
8 dred or more before the year nineteen hundred twenty-
9 two; of all towns in the state having a school enrolment
10 of three hundred pupils or more before the year nineteen
11 hundred twenty-four. The superintending school commit-
12 tee in the several towns shall appoint medical and dental
13 inspectors and school nurses and shall assign one medical
14 or one dental inspector to not to exceed two thousand
15 pupils, and one nurse to not to exceed four thousand pu-
16 pils. Such medical and dental inspectors and school nurses
17 shall be provided by the superintending school committee
18 with all of the proper facilities for the performance of their
19 duties. In the selection of medical and dental examiners
20 the superintending school committee shall select only
21 properly qualified persons who are graduates of standard
22 medical or dental colleges in good standing, but prefer-
23 ence shall be given those who have had special training
24 for school work, or who have had previous teaching ex-
25 perience.

Sect. 41. Each school physician or dentist shall make
2 an examination and diagnosis of all children referred to
3 him and notify the parent of any defects found, and shall
4 make such examination of teachers, janitors and school

5 buildings as in his opinion the protection of the health of
6 the pupils and the general welfare of the community may
7 require. Medical and dental examiners and school nurses
8 shall be under the direct supervision of the superintending
9 school committee, except in such towns and cities as pro-
10 vide a full time expert health officer, in which case medi-
11 cal and dental examiners shall be under the general super-
12 vision of such officer. It shall be the duty of medical and
13 dental inspectors to enter upon uniform blanks prescribed
14 by the state superintendent of schools the physical con-
15 dition of each child examined, with recommendations for
16 corrective treatment. The superintending school commit-
17 tee shall cause such reports of examination to be arranged
18 in convenient form for preservation.

Sect. 42. It shall be the duty of the school nurse, under
2 the direction of the superintendent of schools, to perform
3 such professional services as may be assigned to her from
4 time to time. She shall be a registered nurse in good stand-
5 ing. In the selection of nurses preference shall be given
6 to those who have had special training along such educa-
7 tional lines as may be necessary for rendering the highest
8 service, or to those who have had previous experience as
9 teachers.

Sect. 43. The superintending school committee shall cause
2 to be referred to the school physician for examination and
3 diagnosis every child returning to school without certifi-
4 cate from the board of health, or the public health officer,

5 or the family physician, after absence on account of ill-
6 ness, or whenever in the judgment of the teacher or the
7 superintendent of schools the circumstances of the absence
8 were such as to make a certificate advisable in order to
9 protect the welfare of the children of the school, and every
10 child in the schools under its jurisdiction who shows signs
11 of being in ill health or suffering from a contagious or
12 infectious disease, unless he is excused from the school
13 by the teacher, except that in case of schools in remote or
14 sparsely settled sections the school committee shall make
15 such arrangements as in their judgment will carry out the
16 provisions of this section.

Sect. 47. It shall be the duty of all towns in which the
2 provisions of the seven preceding sections apply to make
3 provision for the payment of all necessary expenses in-
4 curred. Whenever at the close of the school year the su-
5 perintendent of schools of any town or city shall certify
6 under oath to the state superintendent of public schools,
7 in such detailed form as the state superintendent may re-
8 quire, the amount expended for the services of medical and
9 dental examiners and school nurses, and other information
10 relative to the number of children examined and treated,
11 state aid shall be paid by the treasurer of state annually
12 in December as reimbursement to the extent of one-half
13 the expenditure for the services of such examiners and
14 nurses; provided that the amount so paid shall not exceed
15 six hundred dollars for each one thousand pupils; and pro-

16 vided further, that the expenditure of any town for these
17 purposes shall be from funds other than those received
18 from the state or required by law to be raised for the sup-
19 port of common schools.

Sect. 48. Any town may make provision for school nurses
2 and for medical and dental inspection of school children
3 at any time prior to the dates fixed in section forty and
4 may come within the provisions of section forty-seven rel-
5 ative to reimbursement for expenses incurred.'