MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 353

S. P. 351

In Senate, Feb. 5, 1931.

Referred to Committee on State Prisons and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator St. Clair of Knox.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-ONE

AN ACT to Regulate Prison Labor and to Determine the Use to Which Prison or Convict Made Goods May Be Put in This State.

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

Section I. It is hereby declared unlawful for the State of Maine, or any of its officers or agents, to enter into any contract or other arrangement for the labor of any inmate or inmates of our several penal institutions.

Sect. 2. It is hereby declared lawful and the policy of the State of Maine to produce in any of our penal institutions, through the labor of inmates thereof, any goods, wares or merchandise which can be manufactured or produced. The Governor and Council is hereby empowered and required to determine in what penal institutions goods, wares, or merchandise may be produced or manufactured and what goods, wares, or merchandise may therein be produced or manufactured; and in their discretion provide for the labor of prisoners in State Highway work.

The Governor and Council is also authorized to fix the compensation, if any, to be paid to any prisoners so employed in any penal institution and State highway work.

The Governor and Council shall determine whether any, and if so what, articles produced or manufactured in our penal institutions are suitable for use by the inmates of any of the several institutions which the State supports in whole or in part, and having so determined, shall have authority to require the use of such goods, wares and merchandise in some or all of said institutions by the inmates thereof.

Sect. 3. No goods, wares or merchandise, so produced or manufactured in any of the State's penal institutions shall be sold, exposed for sale, stored, or used anywhere within the State of Maine except as provided in Section 2. And no goods, wares, and merchandise produced or manufactured in any of our penal institutions shall be sent beyond the limits of the State of Maine for any use whatever.

Sect. 4. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.