

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1864.



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1864.

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# FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE.

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SENATE.

No. 20.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT to provide support for the families of soldiers.

[New draft, as amended by the Senate.]

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

SECTION 1. The cities, towns and plantations in this  
2 state shall raise money by taxation or otherwise to be  
3 applied to aid in the support of the wife, aged, infirm  
4 and dependent father and mother, and minor children  
5 under the age of fifteen years, being inhabitants of  
6 such city, town or plantation of any soldier, sailor, or  
7 marine, who may be actually engaged in the military  
8 or naval service of the United States or of this state  
9 in any recognized company, battalion or regiment of  
10 the United States or of this state or on board of any

11 armed vessel of the United States during the present  
12 rebellion ; the money so raised to be expended under  
13 the direction of the municipal authorities of said cities,  
14 towns and plantations as herein prescribed : there shall  
15 be paid in money on the last Saturday of each month ;  
16 the sum of seventy-five cents per week for a wife,  
17 aged and infirm dependent mother, father or widowed  
18 mother, and fifty cents per week for each child of such  
19 soldier under the age of fifteen years ; *provided how-*  
20 *ever*, that no such aid shall be furnished by the munic-  
21 ipal officers aforesaid unless the person or persons en-  
22 titled thereto or some one by them duly authorized  
23 shall demand the same of the authorities aforesaid  
24 before the thirty-first day of December in each year ;  
25 and the sum so paid shall not in any case exceed  
26 eleven dollars per month for all the persons thus de-  
27 pendent upon one soldier, sailor or marine ; and such  
28 aid shall be furnished to such persons as are herein  
29 authorized to receive it belonging to the family of any  
30 such soldier, sailor or marine killed in battle or by the  
31 casualties of war ; and such aid may, at the discretion  
32 of the municipal authorities, be furnished to the persons  
33 herein authorized to receive it, belonging to the family  
34 of any such soldier, sailor or marine who may be dis-  
35 charged from the service in consequence of any disa-

36 bility resulting from the casualties of war and not from  
37 his own fault ; or who may be disabled as aforesaid  
38 and discharged in consequence of the expiration of  
39 time of service, for a period not exceeding one year  
40 after such death or discharge, provided that in case of  
41 discharge he shall not sooner recover from such disa-  
42 bility.

SECT. 2. The cities, towns and plantations in this  
2 state, are hereby authorized and empowered to raise  
3 any additional sum or sums of money over and above  
4 the amount to be reimbursed by the state, by taxation  
5 or otherwise, to aid in the support of the dependent  
6 family of such soldier, sailor or marine in the service  
7 of the United States, or of this state, as set forth in  
8 the first section of this act, in order to provide such  
9 support as may be deemed necessary in cases not met  
10 or adequately provided for by the provisions of this  
11 act.

SECT. 3. The money so applied by any city, town  
2 or plantation, as authorized by the first section of this  
3 act, shall be reimbursed from the state treasury to  
4 such city, town or plantation.

SECT. 4. No such reimbursement shall be made in  
2 any case, until an account of the expenditures, duly  
3 certified and sworn to by a majority of the proper

4 municipal authorities of each city, town and planta-  
5 tion in the state, furnishing the aid as aforesaid, shall  
6 be made and filed with the governor and council,  
7 which account shall set forth the name of the soldier  
8 for whose family expense has been incurred ; also the  
9 name and age of each person who received aid and  
10 the sum paid for each of said persons. Accounts thus  
11 made out and filed within the time hereinafter pre-  
12 scribed, shall be examined by the governor and coun-  
13 cil, and if found correct and duly vouched shall be  
14 approved.

SECT. 5. Such accounts shall be made up to the  
2 first day of January in each year, and shall be filed  
3 with the governor and council on or before the first  
4 day of February following, and shall be examined and  
5 passed upon on or before the first day of April annu-  
6 ally. If approved, the amount allowed shall be paid  
7 by the state treasurer to the city, town or plantation  
8 whose claim has thus been established.

SECT. 6. No pauper disabilities shall be created by  
2 reason of receiving the aid provided for in this act.

SECT. 7. The word plantation, when it occurs in this  
2 act, is intended to include plantations duly organized  
3 for election purposes. And any person entitled to the  
4 aid provided for in this act, who may reside in any

5 unorganized plantation in this state, shall receive it in  
6 the nearest duly organized city, town or plantation in  
7 this state.

SECT. 8. This act shall not authorize reimbursing  
2 money applied to aid the wife, child or parent as  
3 aforesaid, of any commissioned officer in the military  
4 or naval service as aforesaid, or for money applied to  
5 aid the family of any soldier, sailor or marine who  
6 may desert the service, after notice of such desertion  
7 shall be received by the city, town or plantation of his  
8 residence.

SECT. 9. The governor and council shall have power  
2 to send for persons and papers in order to ascertain the  
3 amount due to each city, town and plantation under  
4 this act.

SECT. 10. If any city, town or plantation, or the  
2 municipal officers thereof, shall neglect or refuse to  
3 comply with the provisions of this act according to its  
4 true intent and meaning, and to the satisfaction of the  
5 governor and council, such city, town or plantation  
6 or the municipal officers thereof, as the case may be,  
7 shall forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred dollars, one  
8 half to the use of the aggrieved party and one half to  
9 the county where the cause is tried, to be recovered by  
10 indictment in any court proper to try the same.

SECT. 11. Any one of the persons named in the first  
2 section of this act, as entitled to aid, who shall be  
3 temporarily absent from the state or town without  
4 abandoning residence therein, shall receive the aid  
5 herein specified, provided application shall be made  
6 therefor to the municipal officers of the city, town or  
7 plantation of their residence, before the thirty-first day  
8 of December in each year and not otherwise.

SECT. 12. It shall be the duty of the adjutant gen-  
2 eral to give notice in all cases of desertions, to the  
3 several cities, towns and plantations of the state, of  
4 each soldier, sailor or marine residing therein, and  
5 also in all cases of return from desertion, and also  
6 when any non-commissioned officer or private shall be  
7 promoted to the rank of a commissioned officer, as soon  
8 as he shall receive the knowledge of such promotion,  
9 such notice being in each case a simple statement of  
10 the fact.

SECT. 13. The secretary of state shall furnish an  
2 attested copy of this act to the municipal officers of  
3 the several cities, towns and plantations of the state,  
4 within twenty days after its approval by the governor.

SECT. 14. If the municipal authorities of any city,  
2 town or plantation in this state, shall refuse or here-  
3 tofore have refused to furnish aid to persons entitled



4 to it under this act or any former act, such persons  
5 may apply to the governor and council, who are here-  
6 by authorized to investigate said claims, and render  
7 such assistance to the claimants by paying money from  
8 the state treasury, or otherwise, as they may deem  
9 right and just according to this act.

SECT. 15. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent  
2 with this act are hereby repealed, and this act shall  
3 take effect and be in force from and after the twen-  
4 tieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thou-  
5 sand eight hundred and sixty-four.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, March 11, 1864.

Taken from the table, on motion of Mr. SANBORN of Kennebec, and amended; and on motion of Mr. BRADBURY, laid on the table, and 350 copies of the bill in a new draft, as amended by the Senate, ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature.

EZRA C. BRETT, *Secretary.*