

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
101st LEGISLATURE

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to S. P. 598, L. D. 1565, Bill, "An Act Relating to
Minimum Number of School Days in Public Schools."

Amend said Bill by striking out everything after the enacting
clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

"Sec. 1. R.S., c. 41, §32, amended. The first sentence of section 32 of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 12-A of chapter 364 of the public laws of 1957, is further amended to read as follows:

'The school moneys of every administrative unit shall be so expended as to give as nearly as practicable the same aggregate annual length of terms in all its schools, and every administrative unit shall make provision for the maintenance of all its schools for not less than 36-weeks 175 actual school days annually.'

Sec. 2. R.S., c. 41, §98, sub-§III, amended. Subsection III of section 98 of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 369 of the public laws of 1955, is amended to read as follows:

'III. Minimum school year. It has a minimum school year of ~~180 legal~~ 175 actual school days.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 41, §154, amended. Section 154 of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 154. School holidays; special observances. The following days shall be observed as school holidays, namely: Patriot's Day, April 19; Memorial Day, May 30; Independence Day, July 4th; Labor Day, first Monday in September; Veterans Day, November 11th; Christmas Day, December 25th; Thanksgiving and ~~Arber~~ Day, as appointed by the Governor and Council. ~~Arber-Day-shall-not-be-recognized-as-a-school-holiday-unless-observed-by-teacher-and-pupils-for-the-purpose-for-which-it-is-designated-by-the-Governor-and-Council.~~ Lincoln Day shall be observed by devoting some part of the day to the study of the life and character of Abraham Lincoln. All teachers of public schools in the State shall close their schools on the above-named days ~~and-draw-pay-the-same-as-if-their-schools-had-been-in-session.~~ When any one of the above-named holidays falls on a Sunday, the Monday following shall be observed as a school holiday, ~~with-all-the-privileges-applying-to-any-of-the-days-above-named.~~ In addition to the foregoing, New Year's Day, January 1st; Washington's Birthday, February 22nd; Columbus Day, October 12th, shall, upon vote of the superintending school committee or school directors of any administrative unit, be observed by teachers and pupils of the public schools of said administrative unit by an

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exercise appropriate thereto, such exercise to be held during such part of the school session as the teacher of each school may designate. The exercises so held shall aim to impress on the minds of the youth the important lessons of character and good citizenship to be learned from the lives of American leaders and heroes and from a contemplation of their own duties and obligations to the community, state and nation of which they constitute a part. In the absence of any vote of the superintending school committee or school directors, said days shall be observed as legal school holidays ~~with-the-closing-of-schools.~~

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 41, §156, amended. Section 156 of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 156. Teachers may suspend schools during conventions. Teachers of public schools may suspend their schools for not more than ~~2-days~~ one day in any year during the sessions of such conventions within their counties and also for not more than 2 days in any year during the sessions of any state teachers' convention approved by the commissioner, unless otherwise directed in writing by the school officers, and attend said conventions ~~without- forfeiture-of-pay-for-the-time-of-such-attendance,-provided-they-shall-present-to-the-officers-employing-them-certificates-signed-by-the-secretaries-of-such-conventions-and-countersigned-by-the-commissioner,-showing-such-attendance.~~

Sec. 5. Effective date. This act shall take effect July 1, 1964."

Proposed by Senator BROOKS of CUMBERLAND

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