

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 109

S. P. 65

In Senate, January 17, 1967

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

JERROLD B. SPEERS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Sproul of Lincoln.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Bridge Academy.

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

Sec. 1. P. & S. L., 1891, c. 286, § 2, amended. Section 2 of chapter 286 of the private and special laws of 1891, as amended by chapter 89 of the private and special laws of 1951, is further amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2. Powers and privileges. Said corporation is hereby vested with all the powers, rights, privileges and immunities incident to similar corporations, may have and use a common seal, prosecute and defend suits at law, make and establish by-laws and regulations for the management of its affairs and the proper government of the academy, not repugnant to the constitution and laws of the state, and hold estate, real and personal, which it may now have, or may hereafter receive by gift, grant, devise, purchase or otherwise ~~to an amount not exceeding \$400,000.~~

Sec. 2. P. & S. L., 1891, c. 286, § 6, amended. Section 6 of chapter 286 of the private and special laws of 1891 is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6. Who may attend academy, free of tuition. All children between the ages of ten and twenty-one years, having their usual and legal residence in said town of Dresden, shall have the right to attend said academy and have all its equal privileges and advantages free of charge of tuition or otherwise in the same manner and to the same extent as in a free high school, ~~provided, said town of Dresden shall vote to empower the trustees of said fund to transfer and deliver to the trustees under this charter, or their associates and successors, said fund and securities as provided in section five of this act until the trustees shall, by majority vote, exercise the powers set forth in section 7.~~

Sec. 3. P. & S. L., 1891, c. 286, § 7, repealed and replaced. Section 7 of chapter 286 of the private and special laws of 1891 is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

Sec. 7. May terminate use of Bridge Academy as separate school. Whenever the trustees shall determine that circumstances exist which make it unwise and imprudent to continue to maintain Bridge Academy as a free high school because of changes in educational methods, or because of inadequate trust income to maintain then currently acceptable qualities of instruction, or in the event that the Town of Dresden decides not to maintain separate school facilities, the trustees may vote to terminate the use of Bridge Academy as a separate school and shall thereafter devote future trust income to the promotion of education, literature and science primarily for the benefit of all children between the ages of ten and twenty-one, having their usual and legal residence in said Town of Dresden in such manner as they shall from time to time determine to be consonant with the intent of the founders of Bridge Academy. Such uses may include but not be limited to the maintenance of library and study facilities; special remedial courses; tuition payments to vocational schools and colleges; instructional courses of special benefit to the citizens of Dresden; contributions for underwriting special courses in any school providing education to any Dresden students; and to provide funds for the education of any such child in a manner that the trustees deem wise and prudent.

At the time the trustees exercise the powers herein granted and from time to time thereafter they shall determine what portions of the existing academy building shall be used for their purposes and the remaining portions shall be utilized as the trustees shall decide, the rents and income therefrom to be used in the same manner as other trust income.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The charter of Bridge Academy was granted in 1891 and, except for a minor amendment in 1951, has remained unchanged since that time. Progressive changes in education, educational concepts and limited income necessitate charter changes in order that the trustees may carry out, as nearly as possible, the original intent of the founders of Bridge Academy.