

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 45.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-TWO.

AN ACT in aid of free high schools.

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

SECTION 1. Whenever any city, town, school district
2 or individuals, in any town or towns, shall establish
3 and maintain a suitable free high school for such city,
4 town or towns, and shall annually make special appro-
5 priation by tax or otherwise for the same, the state by
6 this act covenants to appropriate annually in aid of
7 said free high schools, not already provided for by
8 state aid, a sum equal to the amount raised and
9 actually paid by each city, town or school district for
10 the like purpose ; in no case to exceed five hundred
11 dollars on the part of the state, for any one city or
12 town in any one year, said appropriation to be paid by

13 the state treasurer, on or after November first of each
14 year, upon proper certification by the governor and
15 council, as provided in section four of this act.

SECT. 2. It shall be the duty of the school district
2 in which said free high school shall be located, to
3 furnish at the expense of said town or district, a
4 suitable building and equipments for said school.

SECT. 3. The course of study in said high school
2 shall embrace the ordinary academic studies, especially
3 the natural sciences in their application to mechanics,
4 manufactures and agriculture.

SECT. 4. Prior to making or paying any appropria-
2 tion by the state in aid of such school, satisfactory
3 evidence shall be furnished to the state superintendent
4 of common schools, and by this officer to the governor
5 and council, that the city, town or school district
6 asking aid, has complied with the conditions required
7 in sections one and two of this act; and a certificate
8 thereof shall be issued by the governor and council for
9 the benefit of the city, town or district asking such
10 aid.

SECT. 5. Cities, towns and school districts, are
2 hereby empowered to appropriate a portion of their
3 school money, to sustain said free high school, as
4 indicated in this act, in addition to the special appro-
5 priation required by section one.

SECT. 6. The free high school contemplated by this
2 act shall be free to all the youth in the school district, or
3 districts, where the same shall be established, on such
4 conditions or attainments of scholarship, as shall be
5 fixed by the superintending school committee of the
6 town in which the same is located; and also to the
7 youth in said town residing outside of said district
8 or districts, by paying such rates of tuition, as the
9 selectmen and superintending school committee of such
10 town deem just and equitable, upon the same condi-
11 tions of scholarship; and the same school may be open
12 to youth from other towns upon the same conditions
13 of scholarship and at such rates of tuition as said
14 board of selectmen and superintending school commit-
15 tee may determine.

SECT. 7. The superintending school committee, and
2 the selectmen of the town, in which high schools
3 contemplated in this act shall be located, are hereby
4 constituted a joint board for the purposes specified in
5 section six.

SECT. 8. Not more than two free high schools con-
2 templated in this act, shall be established in any one
3 town.

SECT. 9. Any two school districts adjoining each
2 other, both lying in one town, or in different towns,
3 may unite in establishing one free high school, con-

4 templated in this act ; and in case two school districts
5 lying in different towns unite for this purpose, the
6 youth of each of said towns, residing outside of said
7 districts, shall be entitled to the same rights, and sub-
8 ject to the same limitations and conditions as though
9 said free high school, was established in one school
10 district, and in one town.

SECT. 10. School districts where free high schools
2 shall be established by virtue of this act, are hereby
3 authorized for the purpose of sustaining the same, to
4 raise money, and levy a tax on the property in such
5 district, in the same manner, as is now provided by
6 law, for repairing and erecting school houses.

SECT. 11. Free high schools established and put in
2 operation under this act, shall be under the control
3 and supervision of the superintending school committee
4 of the town where the same shall be located ; and
5 with the school agent of said district, said committee
6 shall employ suitable, competent teachers for the
7 same.

SECT. 12. Supervisors of town schools whenever
2 they shall be chosen instead of superintending school
3 committees, shall have the same powers, and be sub-
4 ject to the same duties under this act, as are superin-
5 tending school committees.

SECT. 13. Cities and towns where the school district

2 system has, or shall hereafter be abolished, may estab-
3 lish in each, not exceeding two free high schools,
4 under such regulations and rules as shall be prescribed
5 by the municipal officers and superintending school
6 committees of such cities and towns, and be entitled
7 to the benefits, and subject to the conditions and limi-
8 tations contained in this act.

SECT. 14. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent
2 with this act, are hereby repealed.



STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 8, 1872. }

Reported from the Committee on Education, by Mr. PERRY of
Oxford, read twice, and on his motion ordered printed and Wednes-
day of next week assigned.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Clerk.*