

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

No 3.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

[S. 25.] AN ACT to secure the education of youth in the State of Maine.

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

SECTION 1. That every parent, guardian, or other
2 person in the State of Maine, having control of any
3 child or children between the ages of seven and four-
4 teen years, shall be required to send such child or
5 children to a public school for a period of at least
6 twelve weeks in each year, unless such child or child-
7 ren are excused from such attendance by the school
8 officers of the town in which such parent or guardian
9 resides, upon its being shown to their satisfaction that
10 the mental or bodily condition of such child or children
11 has been such as to prevent attendance at school or
12 application to study for the period required, or that

13 such child or children have been taught at a private
14 school or at home in such branches as are usually
15 taught in primary schools ; *provided* in case a public
16 school shall not be taught for three months in the year
17 within one and one-half miles by the shortest travelled
18 road of the residence of such delinquent, he shall not
19 be liable to the provisions of this act.

SECT. 2. In case any parent, guardian, or other
2 person having such control, shall fail to comply with
3 section one of this act, he shall be liable to a fine not
4 exceeding five dollars and costs of prosecution for such
5 offence, to be recovered in any court competent to try
6 the same, and the magistrate or court to which said
7 fine shall be paid shall pay the same to the treasurer
8 of the town in which the offence was committed, and
9 shall be by him accounted for the same as money
10 raised for school purposes.

SECT. 3. Every boy in this state between the ages
2 of seven and fourteen years, who shall neglect or re-
3 fuse to attend school as required in section one of this
4 act, unless excused by the school officers of the city,
5 town or plantation in which he resides, on being con-
6 victed of such offence, shall pay a fine not exceeding
7 five dollars, or be sentenced to the reform school, in
8 the discretion of the court or magistrate before whom
9 the offence is tried.

EDUCATION OF YOUTH.

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SECT. 4. It shall be the duty of the school commit-
2 tee or town supervisor to enforce the several provisions
3 of this act.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, January 25, 1875.

Presented by Mr. FOSTER of Oxford, and on his motion ordered
to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Education.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary.*