

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# FIFTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE.

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SENATE.

No 4.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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

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*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 fifteen  
4 years, shall be required to send such child or children  
5 to a public school for a period of at least twelve weeks  
6 in each year, unless such child or children are excused  
7 from such attendance by the school officers of the town  
8 in which such parent or guardian resides, upon its  
9 being shown to their satisfaction that the mental or  
10 bodily condition of such child or children has been  
11 such as to prevent attendance at school or application  
12 to study for the period required, or that such child or

13 children have been taught at a private school or at  
14 home in such branches as are usually taught in pri-  
15 mary schools; *provided* in case a public school shall  
16 not be taught for three months in the year within one  
17 and one-half miles by the shortest travelled road of the  
18 residence of such delinquent, he shall not be liable to  
19 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 fifteen years, who shall neglect or refuse  
3 to attend school as required in section one of this act,  
4 unless excused by the school officers of the city, town  
5 or plantation in which he resides, on being convicted  
6 of such offence, shall pay a fine not exceeding five  
7 dollars, or be sentenced to the reform school, in the  
8 discretion of the court or magistrate before whom the  
9 offence is tried.

EDUCATION OF YOUTH.

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

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE, January 28, 1875.

Reported by Mr. FOSTER of Oxford, from the Committee on Education, and laid over to be printed under the Joint Rule.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary.*