

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Fifty-Seventh Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 162.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT amendatory of section second, chapter one hundred and twenty-four of the public laws of the year eighteen hundred and seventy-three, relating to free high schools.

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

SECTION 1. The second section of the one hundred
2 and twenty-fourth chapter of the public laws of the
3 year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, is
4 hereby amended by adding to said section the words :
5 “ but if all or any part of the money paid by the state
6 for the support of such free high schools, shall be ex-
7 pended for any other purpose than for the support of
8 said free high schools, as provided by this section,
9 then the person or persons so misapplying said money,
10 shall forfeit double the sum so misapplied, to be re-

11 covered in an action of debt, in the name and to the use
12 of the town by any inhabitant thereof; and no town
13 shall receive further support from the state for any free
14 high school, until the amount so received, but mis-
15 applied, shall be raised and expended for such free
16 high schools, by such towns," so that the same
17 shall read, when amended, as follows:

18 *Sect. 2.* Any town may establish and maintain not
19 exceeding two free high schools; and when two such
20 schools are maintained, shall be entitled to receive
21 the same state aid as if the expenditure for both
22 schools had been made for one school. Two or more
23 adjoining towns may unite in establishing and main-
24 taining a free high school, and both receive the same
25 state aid as if such school had been maintained by one
26 town. So long as any town shall decline to avail
27 itself of the provisions of this act, any school district,
28 or union of districts in such town, may establish and
29 maintain a free high school, and receive state aid the
30 same as the town might have done; *provided*, that no
31 more than two such free high schools shall be estab-
32 lished in any town, and that the amount of state aid
33 extended to the districts in any town shall not exceed
34 the sum that the town might have received. Two or
35 more adjoining school districts in different towns may

36 establish and maintain a union free high school, and,
37 with the consent of both towns, may receive a propor-
38 tional part of such state aid, to be determined as pro-
39 vided by item eight, but in no case to exceed the
40 amount that either town might have received. Towns
41 shall receive in trust and faithfully expend donations
42 and bequests made to aid in the maintenance of free
43 high schools, and shall receive state aid in such cases
44 to the same extent, and on the same conditions as if
45 such schools had been established and maintained by
46 taxation; furthermore, any town or district shall be
47 entitled to receive such state aid on any expenditure
48 for a free high school or schools made from the funds
49 or proceeds of the real estate of an academy or incor-
50 porated institution of learning, surrendered or trans-
51 ferred to such town or district for educational purposes;
52 but if all or any part of the money paid by the state,
53 for the support of such free high schools, shall be ex-
54 pended for any other purpose than for the support of
55 said free high schools, as provided in this section, then
56 the person or persons so misapplying said money, shall
57 forfeit double the sum so misapplied, to be recovered
58 in an action of debt, in the name and to the use of the
59 town, by any inhabitant thereof; and no town shall
60 receive further support from the state for any free high

61 school, until the amount received, but misapplied, shall
62 be raised and expended for such free high school by
63 such town.

SECT. 2. This act shall take effect when approved.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 12, 1878. }

Reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, by Mr. SEIDERS
of North Yarmouth, and ordered printed under the Joint Rule.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, Clerk.