

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Fifty-Seventh Legislature.

SENATE.

No. 23.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

[S. 54.] AN ACT to establish a state board of examiners of teachers for the public schools.

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

SECTION 1. The governor and council shall appoint
2 for each county, on the recommendation of the state
3 superintendent of common schools, three or more per-
4 sons, not to exceed five for any one county, as a board
5 of examiners of teachers, whose term of office shall con-
6 tinue three years unless they shall be sooner removed
7 by the governor.

SECT. 2. These examiners shall hold meetings in
2 three or more places in each county, at such times and
3 places as the state superintendent of common schools

4 shall appoint. At such meetings all persons desiring
5 to teach in the public schools of the state, who shall
6 present themselves therefor, shall be examined in the
7 studies prescribed in the laws of this state, and also in
8 methods of teaching and of school management and
9 discipline.

SECT. 3. The questions for such examination shall
2 be furnished to said examiners by the state superinten-
3 dent of common schools. The said examiners shall
4 certify to the state superintendent the rank obtained
5 by each candidate, and shall fix the rank which shall
6 entitle candidates to receive certificates. To every
7 person attaining the rank prescribed, the state super-
8 intendent shall grant a certificate, which certificate
9 shall be in one of three grades. Each candidate may
10 elect at the time of examination for which of said
11 grades he will be examined. Certificates shall be en-
12 titled third class, second class, and first class. Third
13 class certificates shall be valid for one year, second
14 class for two years, and first class for three years. To
15 any person entitled to or holding a first class certificate,
16 who shall furnish satisfactory evidence of three years'
17 successful experience in teaching within five years
18 next preceding the examination whereon said certifi-
19 cate is to be or shall have been granted, the state super-

20 intendent shall issue a life certificate of the same grade
21 which shall be valid during good behavior.

SECT. 4. Every person receiving a certificate shall
2 pay for the same as follows: for a third class certificate
3 fifty cents, for one of the second class seventy-five
4 cents, for one of the first class one dollar, and for a life
5 certificate two dollars. The money so paid shall be
6 turned over to the state treasury, and shall constitute
7 a fund to be used for the payment of the expenses of
8 examinations; and if any surplus remains after the
9 payment of such expenses, said surplus may be used
10 to pay the expenses of normal teachers' institutes, and
11 for no other purposes.

SECT. 5. The examiners shall receive three dollars
2 per day for time actually employed, and sums actually
3 paid by them for expenses, the accounts for which shall
4 be examined and approved by the state superintendent
5 and audited by the governor and council. But no more
6 shall be paid for said services and expenses than shall
7 have been paid into the state treasury for certificates.

SECT. 6. No person not in possession of one of the
2 certificates provided for in this act, shall be employed
3 as teacher after the first day of June, one thousand
4 eight hundred and seventy-eight, in any public school
5 in this state supported in whole or in part by money
6 derived from state funds; and any town so employing

7 such person shall forfeit from its state school funds a
8 sum equal to the amount paid to each and every person
9 so employed. *Provided*, that any city or town having
10 a graded system of schools, and in which the super-
11 visor or superintending school committee have sole
12 authority to employ teachers for such graded schools,
13 may, if said supervisor or committee shall file with the
14 state superintendent of common schools, annually, on
15 or before the first day of April, a statement of such
16 facts, be exempt from the provisions of this act in so far
17 as regards teachers employed in such graded schools.

SECT. 7. This act shall take effect on and after its
2 approval by the governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, February 1, 1878.

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

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary*.