

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

No. 48.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to punish tramps.

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

SECTION 1. Any person going about from place
2 to place begging, and asking or subsisting upon
3 charity, shall be punished by imprisonment at hard
4 labor not more than fifteen months.

SECT. 2. Any tramp who shall enter any dwell-
2 ing-house, or kindle any fire in the highway, or on
3 the land of another, without the consent of the
4 owner or occupant thereof, or shall be found carry-
5 ing any firearms or other dangerous weapon, or
6 shall threaten to do any injury to any person, or to
7 the real or personal estate of another, shall be pun-
8 ished by imprisonment at hard labor not more than
9 two years.

SECT. 3. Any tramp who shall wilfully and maliciously do any injury to any person, or to the real or personal estate of another, shall be punished by imprisonment at hard labor not more than five years.

SECT. 4. Any act of beggary or vagrancy by any person not a resident of this state shall be prima facie evidence that the person committing the same is a tramp, within the meaning of this act.

SECT. 5. Any person, upon view of any offence described in this act, may apprehend the offender and take him before a trial justice for examination.

SECT. 6. The mayor of every city, and the selectmen of every town, are hereby authorized and required to appoint special constables, whose duty it shall be to arrest and prosecute all tramps in their respective cities and towns.

SECT. 7. This act shall not apply to any female, or minor under the age of fifteen years, nor to any blind person.

SECT. 8. Upon the passage of this act, the secretary of state shall cause printed copies of this act to be sent to the several town and city clerks, who shall cause the same to be posted in at least six conspicuous places, three of which shall be on the public highway.

SECT. 9. This act shall take effect on and after
2 April first, eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, and
3 all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act
4 are hereby repealed.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, February 12, 1879.

Reported by Mr. MOREISON of Franklin, from the Committee on the Judiciary, and laid on the table to be printed under the Joint Rule.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary.*