

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SIXTIETH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 128.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT for the better protection of life in buildings
used for public purposes.

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

SECTION 1. Any church, theatre, hall or other
2 building or structure intended to be used tempora-
3 rily or permanently for any public purpose, or any
4 school-house or school-room, public or private,
5 hereafter constructed, shall have all inner doors
6 intended to be used for egress therefrom open
7 outwards.

SECT. 2. All outer doors of buildings or struc-
2 tures of the kind mentioned in section one of this
3 act, constructed or hereafter to be constructed,
4 shall be kept open when such buildings or struc-
5 tures are used by the public, unless such doors

6 open outwards, and except that fly doors opening
7 both ways, may be kept closed.

SECT. 3. All hotels used for the accommodation
2 of the public, and all shops, mills, factories, and
3 other buildings, more than two stories in height, in
4 which any trade, manufacture or business is carried
5 on, which requires the presence of workmen or other
6 persons in any part of the building above the first
7 story, shall be provided with such suitable and suf-
8 ficient fire-escapes, outside stairs, or ladders, as the
9 municipal officers shall deem to be sufficient to
10 afford safe and easy escape from the building in
11 case of fire; and such fire-escapes or ladders shall
12 be attached to the building, or be stored outside of
13 such building and convenient thereto, as the muni-
14 cipal officers shall direct, and shall be of such
15 length and number as said officers shall approve.

SECT. 4. Whoever violates the provisions of sec-
2 tions one, two or three of this act, shall forfeit the
3 sum of fifty dollars, and further sum of five dollars
4 per day for every day's continuance thereof, to be
5 recovered by and for the use of the town or city
6 where such building is located, in an action on the
7 case, or by indictment.

SECT. 5. Whenever complaint is made to the
2 municipal officers of any town, that any building

3 of the kind mentioned in sections one and three,
4 now or hereafter to be constructed, is deficient in
5 facilities for egress by reason of the inner doors
6 thereof opening inwards, or the want of fire-escapes,
7 outside stairs or ladders, hereinbefore specified, it
8 shall be the duty of such municipal officers to give
9 notice to all parties interested in said matter, and
10 to inspect such building, and if they find the same
11 so deficient they shall notify the owner, occupant,
12 lessee, or other person having charge thereof, and
13 require of him such changes as shall be necessary
14 to make said doors open outwards, and to provide
15 suitable and sufficient fire-escapes, outside stairs or
16 ladders to be attached or stored as herein provided,
17 and such person shall be allowed thirty days to
18 make such changes and provisions, and if he shall
19 neglect or refuse to make and provide the same
20 within said time, he shall forfeit the sum of fifty
21 dollars, and an additional sum of five dollars per
22 day for every day's continuance of such neglect or
23 refusal to comply with the provisions of this act,
24 to be recovered by and for the use of the city or
25 town where the building is located, in an action
26 on the case or by indictment.

STATE OF MAINE.

In HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 28, 1881. }

Amendments to House Document 47, presented by Mr. STROUT
of Portland. On his motion the bill was ordered printed with the
amendments inserted.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk.*