

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Fourth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 64.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to tax, enfranchise, and admit to the public
schools the Indians residing within the limits of the
State of Maine.

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

SECTION 1. That Indians who have permanently
2 resided within the limits of any city, town or
3 organized plantation of this State for the term of
4 three months next preceding the period when
5 the annual State, county and municipal taxes
6 are required to be assessed shall be taxed in
7 the same manner and for the same purposes that
8 other inhabitants of the State are taxed, and shall
9 be in all respects subject to the laws relating to
10 taxation as are citizens and other inhabitants.

SECT. 2. Male Indians of twenty-one years of
2 age and upwards, shall have in the cities, towns and
3 organized plantations of this State where they
4 reside, the same rights of suffrage that male citi-
5 zens of the State have, and be subject to the same
6 conditions, regulations and disabilities as are citi-
7 zens of the State under the constitution and exist-
8 ing laws, prescribing the qualification of electors.

SECT. 3. The children of Indians residing in any
2 city, town or organized plantations shall be enum-
3 erated with other children in the annual census
4 of children of school age, and shall be admissable
5 to all the public schools supported by general taxa-
6 tion, and be subject to all the regulations prescribed
7 by statute in reference to public education as the
8 same affect the children of citizens.

SECT. 4. When in any city, town or organized
2 plantation the numbers of Indian children admis-
3 sable under this act to the public schools shall be
4 fifteen or more, all the expense incurred for the
5 education of such Indian children shall, for the
6 term of thirty years, and not afterwards, be borne
7 by the State. The amount of such expense shall
8 be determined by multiplying the sum found in any
9 year to have been expended for each scholar upon
10 the census of scholars, by the number of Indian

11 scholars as found by the same census. The Gov-
12 ernor and Council shall audit and allow the bills of
13 expense so incurred for the education of Indian
14 children under this act, upon such certificates and
15 vouchers as may be prescribed in the same way
16 that bills for the expense of the relief of foreign
17 paupers are now required to be drawn, certified
18 and proved.

SECT. 5. For the term of thirty years, and not
2 afterwards, the State shall also bear the expenses
3 incurred by any city or town for the relief or sup-
4 port of any Indian pauper under the laws regula-
5 ting the support of the poor. The Governor and
6 Council shall audit and allow the bills for expenses
7 thus incurred under the same or similar regulations
8 now prescribed by law for the reimbursement by
9 the State of expenses incurred by cities and towns
10 for the relief of foreign paupers.

SECT. 6. In five years after this act shall go into
2 effect, all appropriations and subsidies theretofore
3 annually paid to any Indian tribe or community in
4 the State shall cease, *provided* that Indians, like other
5 citizens, shall not be deprived of the privilege of
6 applying to the legislature for assistance and relief
7 when necessary, or some unforeseen calamity,
8 suffering or loss might make such application rea-

9 sonable and proper; and when it would be within
10 the legislative discretion to recover such assistance
11 to other citizens.

SECT. 7. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent
2 with this act are hereby repealed.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 30, 1889. }

Tabled for printing on motion of Mr. TALBOT of East Machias.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, *Clerk.*