

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

Sixty-Fourth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 153.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to establish the Maine Reformatory Insti-
tution for Women.

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established within
2 this State, as soon as practicable after the taking
3 effect of this act, an institution to be known as the
4 Maine Reformatory Institution for Women, the
5 premises, location, purchase, lease and preparation
6 thereof to be determined by the Governor and
7 Council, who are hereby empowered and directed
8 to provide lot, buildings and all suitable accommo-
9 dations therefor; and, when the same shall have
10 been established and made ready under this act,
11 the Governor shall issue his proclamation giving
12 public notice of the fact.

SECT. 2. The supervision and government of said
2 institution shall be vested in a board of managers,
3 consisting of seven persons, a majority of whom
4 shall be women, and all to be appointed by the
5 Governor with the advice and consent of Council.
6 The first three to be appointed for the term of two
7 years and thereafter for the term of four years and
8 the last four to be appointed for the term of four
9 years in the first instance and thereafterwards
10 once in four years. Any member of said board is
11 subject to removal by the Governor at any time,
12 for cause. The members of said board shall not
13 receive any compensation for their services, except-
14 ing their actual traveling expenses, nor be finan-
15 cially interested in any contract or business con-
16 nected with or growing out of the management of
17 said institution.

SECT. 3. The board of managers shall annually
2 elect one of their number president thereof, and
3 another for secretary and treasurer, who shall keep
4 true and accurate records of all proceedings of the
5 board, and true and exact accounts of all property,
6 receipts and expenditures of said institution. Such
7 board shall make such rules and regulations as
8 they shall deem necessary, subject to the approval

9 of the governor and council respecting other and
10 further organization, the duties devolving upon
11 them as a whole, or as committees, and the work
12 so assigned them. Each department or system,
13 whether for education or employment, the nature
14 thereof, discipline and punishment, shall be under
15 the management of said board. They shall make
16 all necessary contracts for the proper supply of
17 fuel, food and other materials, for the maintenance
18 of said institution; in no case, however, to exceed
19 the appropriations made by the legislature. They
20 shall fix the amount of compensation to be paid to
21 all officers, except the superintendent or matron,
22 and are hereby authorized to appoint the same,
23 and also to employ and pay such persons, not
24 officers, as may be found necessary in the conduct
25 of said institution. They shall have full power to
26 make or enforce all such rules, regulations and by-
27 laws for the government of said officers, employes,
28 and the inmates of said institution as they shall
29 deem necessary, subject, however, to the approval
30 of the inspectors of prisons and jails, who are
31 hereby constituted an advisory board to said
32 managers; but in case of disagreement between
33 said board of managers and said inspectors, the

34 same shall be submitted to and determined by the
35 governor and council. For the transaction of any
36 business a majority of said board shall be present
37 at said institution and vote thereon. Said mana-
38 gers shall there meet at least quarter-annually, and
39 the by-laws shall prescribe when they shall other-
40 wise visit and inspect said institution. Said mana-
41 gers shall determine what measures shall be
42 adopted respecting the welfare and reformation of
43 inmates, and shall have power to indenture, dis-
44 charge on probation, and upon what conditions,
45 any inmate not committed for the crimes of arson,
46 burglary, forgery, manslaughter, assault with in-
47 tent to kill, highway robbery, counterfeiting or
48 abortion, whenever they shall deem it for the
49 best interest of said inmates and the public so to
50 do. Said managers shall cause the said inmates to
51 be employed in all useful employments, and es-
52 pecially in the making of clothing and other
53 articles needed by the inmates of the State prison,
54 the various jails within the State, and the reform
55 school for boys; and may make contracts to fur-
56 nish the same to the aforesaid institutions upon
57 such terms as may be agreed upon by the proper
58 authorities thereof. And said managers shall

59 employ suitable persons to instruct said inmates
60 in common branches of learning, and educate them
61 to habits of industry and the useful occupations
62 and duties of life.

SECT. 4. There shall be placed in charge of this
2 institution a woman superintendent, or matrou, who
3 shall have control thereof, subject, however, to the
4 approval of said manager, who shall be appointed
5 by the Governor by and with the consent of the
6 Council, and hold office at the pleasure of the
7 Governor for a term not exceeding four years,
8 and who shall receive an annual salary of eight
9 hundred dollars per annum payable quarterly. The
10 said superintendent shall be held responsible for
11 the custody of the inmates and the preservation of
12 the property of said institution, and shall give
13 bond to the State in such amount, and upon such
14 conditions as the Governor may require with suf-
15 ficient sureties.

SECT. 5. The president of the board of mana-
2 gers shall submit to each legislature a full report
3 of the doings of said board, number of inmates,
4 expenses of the institution, work performed, finan-
5 cial standing and all matters of interest connected
6 therewith. All accounts of expenditures and all

7 their financial transactions shall be passed upon
8 and allowed by the Governor and Council, and all
9 contracts exceeding three hundred dollars in
10 amount shall first be authorized by them.

SECT. 6. When the said reformatory institution
2 shall have been established it shall be used exclu-
3 sively for women and to this end all female pris-
4 oners then confined in the State prison and in the
5 various county jails and houses of correction
6 throughout the State, may, upon their own request
7 and upon the order of the Governor be transferred
8 there to serve out the remainder of their several
9 sentences, unless said remaining sentence be for
10 less than three months or more than ten years;
11 *provided*, that no one under sentence of death, or
12 who is known to be insane, or suffering from severe
13 and incurable illness shall be so transferred. The
14 sheriff of the county where said reformatory insti-
15 tution is located shall execute the order of the
16 Governor in this behalf, and demand and receive
17 from the warden of the State prison and the keeper
18 of the aforesaid jails and houses of correction all
19 inmates to be so as above transferred and shall
20 deliver them into the custody of the superintend-
21 ent of said reformatory institution, there to serve

22 out their unexpired sentences as hereinbefore pro-
23 vided, and all necessary acts of officers in making
24 said transfer shall be legal and valid.

SECT. 7. After said institution shall have been
2 established, all sentences of females shall be thereto,
3 *provided*, the same be not for a less period than
4 three months, nor for more than ten years. And
5 it is further enacted and provided, in addition to
6 the penalties hitherto authorized by law, that any
7 female who shall be adjudged guilty of the crime
8 of fornication or of any of the offences enumer-
9 ated in section four, chapter one hundred and
10 forty-one of the Revised Statutes of this State, or
11 of larceny or intoxication and disturbance, may,
12 in the discretion of the court, be sentenced to said
13 institution for a term not less than six months, nor
14 for more than three years. And in the prosecution
15 of all offences referred to in this clause judges of
16 municipal and police courts shall have concurrent
17 jurisdiction with the supreme judicial court and
18 superior courts of the State.

SECT. 8. The sum of twenty-five thousand dollars
2 or so much thereof as may be necessary for the
3 purpose of establishing this institution, and the
4 further sum of five thousand or so much thereof as

5 may be necessary to meet the concurrent expenses
6 of said institution up to January 1st, 1891, is hereby
7 appropriated, and these sums shall be drawn by
8 the Governor upon his warrant, from time to time,
9 for all needed disbursements in carrying out the
10 provisions of this act.

SECT. 9. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent
2 with this act, relating to crimes and their punish-
3 ment, are hereby repealed. All acts relating to
4 escapes, rescues, and attempts to rescue prisoners,
5 safe keeping and discipline of the same, and the
6 misconduct of officers and other persons relating
7 thereto, shall apply to this act.

SECT. 10. This act shall take effect when ap-
2 proved.

STATE OF MAINE.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill, entitled "an act to establish a Reformatory Institution for Women," have had the same under consideration and have been unable to agree, and the undersigned members of the committee ask leave to report that the same ought not to pass.

S. J. WALTON,

C. F. LIBBY.

J. H. FOGG,

J. C. TALBOT,

J. B. PEAKS.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 13, 1889.

Tabled pending acceptance of report, and with bill ordered printed on motion by Mr. BARKER of Bangor.

NICHOLAS FESSENDEN, *Clerk.*