

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Sixty-Seventh Legislature.

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HOUSE.

No. 46.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE in favor of the Eastern Maine Insane Hospital at  
Bangor.

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*Resolved*, That the governor, with the advice and con-  
2 sent of the executive council, shall appoint a board of  
3 three commissioners, to whom shall be joined (as an advi-  
4 sory member) the superintendent of the Maine Insane  
5 Hospital. Their reasonable expenses shall be paid while  
6 they are engaged on the commission and they shall also  
7 receive reasonable compensation, the amount of which  
8 shall be fixed by the governor and council; they and their  
9 successors (who shall be appointed in the manner afore-  
10 said whenever vacancies occur) to be known as the Eastern  
11 Maine Insane Hospital Commission. All bills for the ser-  
12 vice of said commission shall be examined and approved

13 by the governor and council, and paid out of the appro-  
14 priation for building said hospital. Said commission are  
15 hereby directed to take immediate steps to erect, con-  
16 struct and complete in a manner to be fire-proof, at  
17 as early a period as possible, and not later than  
18 January 1, 1897, upon the site at Bangor already  
19 purchased by the state for the purpose, buildings  
20 for the accommodation of the insane of the state; after  
21 plans to be selected by them, subject to the approval  
22 of the governor and council. For that purpose the sum  
23 of \$75,000 is hereby appropriated, to be expended during  
24 the year 1895, and the further sum of \$75,000 to be  
25 expended during the year 1896, under the direction of said  
26 commission as herein provided. Said commission is hereby  
27 authorized and empowered to lay any drain or sewer that  
28 may be necessary from the said site to the Penobscot river,  
29 and enter therein below the dam; and for that purpose  
30 may cross any land, highways or railroads that may be  
31 necessary. Damages for the same shall be adjusted in the  
32 same manner as provided by law for the settlement of  
33 land damages incurred by railroads. The governor and  
34 council are hereby authorized to draw warrants upon the  
35 state treasurer in favor of said commission from time to  
36 time, to the amount of the appropriation herein provided.

## EASTERN MAINE INSANE HOSPITAL.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The over-crowded condition of the present Insane Hospital, represented at times by about two hundred more patients than can be accommodated, accompanied with the certainty that the number of insane requiring treatment will greatly increase, make more accommodation for the insane necessary.

The best authorities all concur in the statement that no more than five hundred of the acute and curable insane should be grouped in one hospital, under one management, owing to the fact that the proper care of those who may hope for recovery, requires that each patient should be individually considered and treated. Such a configuration as in 1850 completely destroyed the then existing Hospital buildings, burning twenty-eight of the one hundred and twenty-five patients, then in hospital, may occur again; and the grouping together of buildings, crowded with patients would increase the fire hazard and would endanger many lives.

A new Hospital should be located in Bangor, as the state has already purchased the ground there, the site having been selected and paid for by an appropriation of a previous Legislature.

Bangor is a large railroad centre and conveniently accommodates the eastern portion of the State, the population of which is at present rapidly increasing.

STATE OF MAINE.

The majority of Joint Special Committee on Eastern Maine Insane Hospital at Bangor, to which was referred resolve in favor of the Eastern Maine Insane Hospital at Bangor have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report that the same ought to pass.

DAY,  
FERGUSON,  
COFFIN,  
PARKHURST,  
BIXBY,  
LEIGHTON,  
HOUGHTON,  
PEASLEE,  
GRINDLE,  
WOODSIDE,  
FURBUSH.

RESOLVE in favor of the Maine Insane Hospital.

*Resolved*, That the trustees of the Maine Insane Hospital are hereby authorized and instructed to erect at some place on the hospital premises, at Augusta, a suitable building or buildings, according to plans and specifications to be provided by said trustees and approved by the governor and council. Said buildings to be so located, designed and constructed as to render them specially adapted for the treatment and care of the chronic and incurable insane, and of sufficient capacity to properly provide for the accommodation of this class of patients, not exceeding three hundred persons. The cost of said buildings complete with furniture not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars; this being in conformity with the recommendations submitted in Senate Document No. 1, by the commission created by resolve of the legislature of 1893, consisting of the governor and council and trustees of the Maine Insane Hospital. The sum of one hundred thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for the purpose above named, payable during the year 1895; provided, that before contracts for the foregoing buildings and furnishings are made, proposals shall be advertised for, and contracts shall be awarded to the lowest bidder, with the right to reject any or all bids.

## MINORITY REPORT.

The minority of the joint special committee on the Eastern Maine Insane Hospital have had the same under consideration, and are of the opinion that the resolve reported by a majority of said committee ought not to pass.

We are fully convinced that the present Hospital can be enlarged, in accordance with the recommendations of the joint committee of the Governor's Council and board of trustees of the Insane Hospital who were directed by the Legislature of 1893 "to take into consideration the condition of that portion of the patients of the Insane Hospital that may appear to belong to an idiotic class who are entirely incurable particularly those that are harmless, with a view to separate such class of persons from the Hospital, in order that the accommodation of the Hospital may meet the present and future demands of insane persons by a withdrawal of the first class from the Hospital to their proper home or Asylum." Full details of the result of the investigations of this committee are now in the hands of the Legislature (See Senate Document No. 1.) We believe "that the chronic and incurable insane, made up of various mental and physical conditions but with no hopes of relief, can be well cared for without regard to numbers until the population reaches two thousand, at a reduced cost of maintenance," and that new buildings can be constructed on the grounds of the Hospital at Augusta of sufficient capacity for the care of the surplus at said Hospital, thereby meeting all demands that may be made for many years to come, thereby doing away with a large extra annual expense of an additional plant to be erected at Bangor; and having in view the keep-

ing of present and future appropriations within due bounds, we submit for your consideration the following resolve entitled, a "Resolve in favor of the Maine Insane Hospital," and beg leave to report that the same ought to pass.

C. M. WATERHOUSE,  
C. H. PRESCOTT,  
ELLIOTT WOOD,  
MARTIN L. REYNOLDS,  
W. H. WILLIAMS,  
E. M. LAWRENCE,  
FRED R. SPEAR,  
J. TRUE SANBORN,  
SYLVESTER BARTLETT.



STATE OF MAINE.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
January 31, 1895.

Reported from Joint Special Committee on Eastern Maine Insane Hospital and both reports and accompanying papers ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*