

NEW DRAFT.

Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 247.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-SEVEN

AN ACT to amend section 3, chapter 11, of the Revised Statutes of 1883, as now amended relating to discontinuing schools and conveying school children.

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

Section 1. Section 3 of chapter 11 of the Revised Statutes, 2 as amended by sections 2 and 3 of chapter 216 of the Public 3 Laws of 1893, is hereby amended by striking out all of said 4 section after the word "town" in the sixteenth line thereof, 5 and adding 'but any public school failing to maintain an 6 average attendance for any school year of at least ten pupils 7 shall be and hereby is discontinued, unless the town in

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8 which said school is located shall by vote instruct its super-9 intending school committee to maintain said school. The 10 superintendent of schools in each town shall procure the 11 conveyance of all public school pupils residing in his town, 12 to and from the nearest school, for a period of at least twenty 13 weeks, in each year, when such pupils reside at such a 14 distance from the said school as to render such conveyance 15 necessary;' so that said section as amended shall read as 16 follows:

'Section 3. This act shall not abolish or change the loca-18 tion of any school legally established at the time of its 19 passage; but any town at its annual meeting, or at a meet-20 ing called for the purpose, may determine the number and 21 location of its schools, and may discontinue them or change 22 their location; but such discontinuance or change of loca-23 tion shall be made only on the written recommendation of 24 the superintending school committee, and on conditions 25 proper to preserve the just rights and privileges of the 26 inhabitants for whose benefit such schools were established; 27 provided, however, that in case of any school having, as 28 now established, or which shall hereafter have, too few 29 scholars for its profitable maintenance, the superintending 30 school committee may suspend the operation of such school 31 for not more than one year, unless otherwise instructed by 32 the town, but any public school failing to maintain an 33 average attendance for any school year, of at least ten 34 pupils, shall be and hereby is discontinued, unless the town 35 in which said school is located shall by vote instruct its

36 superintending school committee to maintain said school. 37 The superintendent of schools in each town shall procure 38 the conveyance of all public school pupils residing in his 39 town, to and from the nearest suitable school, for a period 40 of at least twenty weeks in each year, when such pupils 41 reside at such a distance from the said school as to render 42 such conveyance necessary.'

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

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 5, 1897.

Reported by Mr. PATTANGALL of Machias, from Committee on Education, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, Clerk.