

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

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# Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

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HOUSE.

No. 248.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT repealing section 87, chapter 11, Revised Statutes of 1883 and acts amendatory thereto, and substituting therefor an additional section to said chapter, regulating the manner of electing Town Superintendents and defining the Powers and Duties of School Committees and School Superintendents.

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

Section 1. Section 87 of chapter 11 of the Revised Statutes, 2 and all acts additional thereto and amendatory thereof, so 3 far as they relate to said section, are hereby repealed.

Sect. 2. Chapter 11 of the Revised Statutes as now amended, is further amended by adding thereto the following section:

‘Section 127. The management of the schools and the custody and care including repairs and insurance on school buildings, and of all school property in every town, shall devolve upon a superintending school committee which shall annually elect a superintendent of schools who shall not be a member of the committee, who shall be ex-officio secretary of the committee, but any town may elect a superintendent of schools by ballot at the regular town meeting. Said superintendent shall perform the following duties:

(1) He shall make in April annually a certified list of the names and ages of all persons in his town, from four to twenty-one years, corrected to the first day of said month, leaving out of said enumeration all persons coming from other places to attend any college or academy, or to labor in any factory, or at any manufacturing or other business.

(2) He shall examine the schools and inquire into the regulations and discipline thereof and the proficiency of the scholars, for which purpose he shall visit each school at least twice each term.

(3) He shall make all reports and returns relating to the schools of the town which are now or may be required by law to be made by superintending school committees.

(4) He shall perform such other duties as said committee shall direct.

(5) He shall, with the advice and consent of the superintending school committee, appoint suitable times and places for the examination of candidates proposing to teach in town, and shall give notice thereof by posting the same in

32 two or more public places within the town, at least three  
33 weeks, before the time of said examination, or by the publi-  
34 cation of said notice for a like time in one or more news-  
35 papers having the largest circulation in the county. He  
36 shall employ teachers for the several districts in the town.  
37 Five days constitute the school week, and four weeks a  
38 school month.

(6) On satisfactory evidence that a candidate possesses a  
40 good moral character, and a temper and disposition suitable  
41 to be an instructor of youth, he shall with the advice and  
42 consent of the superintending school committee examine  
43 him in reading, spelling, English grammar, geography,  
44 history, arithmetic, book-keeping, civics and physiology  
45 with special reference to the effects of alcoholic drinks, stim-  
46 ulants and narcotics upon the human system; and the ele-  
47 ments of the natural sciences, especially as applied to agri-  
48 culture, and such other branches as he desires to introduce  
49 into public schools, and particularly into the school for  
50 which he is examined; also as to his capacity for the govern-  
51 ment thereof.

(7) He shall with the advice and consent of the superin-  
53 tending school committee give to each candidate found  
54 competent, a certificate that he is qualified to govern said  
55 school and instruct in the branches above named, and such  
56 other branches as may be necessary to be taught therein;  
57 or he may render valid by indorsement, any graded certifi-  
58 cate issued to teachers by normal school principals, or the  
59 State superintendent. No certificate shall be granted to  
60 any person to teach in the public schools in this State who  
61 has not passed a satisfactory examination in physiology  
62 and hygiene, with special reference to the effects of alco-

63 holic drinks, stimulants and narcotics upon the human  
64 system.

(8) Direct the general course of instruction and select a  
66 uniform system of text-books. And when said superin-  
67 tendent shall have made such selection of school books, he  
68 shall contract, under section eight, with the publishers for  
69 the purchase and delivery thereof, and make such rules as  
70 he deems effectual for their preservation and return.

(9) He shall (with the advice and consent of the superin-  
72 tending school committee) make provisions for instructing  
73 all pupils in all schools supported by public money, or under  
74 State control, in physiology and hygiene, with special refer-  
75 ence to the effects of alcoholic drinks, stimulants and  
76 narcotics upon the human system.

(10) After due notice and investigation he shall (with the  
78 advice and consent of the superintending school committee)  
79 dismiss any teacher, although having the requisite certifi-  
80 cate, who proves unfit to teach, or whose services he deems  
81 unprofitable to the school; and give to said teacher a certifi-  
82 cate of dismissal and of the reasons therefor, a copy of  
83 which he shall retain, which shall not deprive the teacher of  
84 compensation for previous services.

(11) Expel any obstinately disobedient and disorderly  
86 scholar, after a proper investigation of his behavior, if found  
87 necessary for the peace and usefulness of the school; and  
88 restore him on satisfactory evidence of his repentance and  
89 amendment.

(12) Exclude, if he deems it expedient, any person not  
91 vaccinated, although otherwise entitled to admission.

(13) Determine what description of scholars shall attend  
93 each school, classify them, and transfer them from school

94 to school where more than one school is kept at the same  
95 time.'

Section 3. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this  
2 act are hereby repealed.



STATE OF MAINE.

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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.*