

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

SENATE.

No. 9.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT Relating to Common Schools.

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

Section 1. All common schools in this State shall be
2 divided into groups called school-classes in such a manner
3 as to give three, five or seven classes in a town; all towns at
4 their annual town meeting in the month of March next, shall
5 determine by vote the number of school-classes into which
6 the town shall be divided; and the selectmen shall, pursuant
7 to such vote in the month of March or April, 1897, divide
8 the town into school-classes containing as near as may be
9 an equal number of schools in each and establish the limits

10 thereof, and number the same and cause the same to be
11 recorded in the town clerk's office and said classes so estab-
12 lished shall remain unchanged for a term of six years.

Sect. 2. In the month of April, annually, the selectmen,
2 by their warrant under their hands, shall call a meeting of
3 the legal voters of each school-class in their town at a school-
4 house therein at a time and place designated therein and
5 give at least seven days notice of such meeting by posting
6 a copy of such warrant on such schoolhouse by a constable,
7 and one of the selectmen or any legal voter authorized by
8 them in writing in said class shall preside at such meeting.
9 The legal voters at such meeting shall choose by ballot a
10 school manager for such class who shall also act as clerk and
11 shall be sworn and hold office for one year and until another
12 shall be elected in his stead, and if the selectmen in any sub-
13 sequent year neglect or refuse to call such a meeting it may
14 be called by the school manager. And at such meeting
15 action shall be taken in relation to board of teachers, terms of
16 school, and class of teachers, and school books and school
17 property.

Sect. 3. The school manager shall employ all teachers
2 for his class, and may, for cause, discharge any teacher, with
3 approval of school board and shall have custody and control
4 of all school property in his class, and may visit a school
5 when deemed necessary, and for his services shall receive at
6 the rate of \$1.50 per day; the school managers shall consti-
7 tute a school board and shall choose a chairman, who shall

8 be secretary of the board, and it shall be his duty to call and
9 preside at all meetings of the board and make all school
10 reports and returns required by law; such school board shall
11 make enumeration of persons in town entitled to attend
12 schools and shall classify and grade the schools and have
13 general control and supervision of schools in town.

All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are
15 hereby repealed and all acts relating to free high schools are
16 hereby repealed; but there is hereby appropriated for the
17 support of common schools, a sum of money, to be assessed
18 by the Governor and Council, equal to the full amount of
19 money paid by the State for the support of free high schools
20 for the year 1896.

Sect. 4. The Governor, with the advice of the Council,
2 shall annually appoint one or more county superintendents
3 for each county, to be recommended by the State super-
4 visor of schools, who shall examine and certify all teachers
5 and classify them by grades, and shall visit a school when
6 requested by any school manager and shall hold training
7 schools for instruction in school management and general
8 topics in teaching, not less than four days in each town, dur-
9 ing the year, and all teachers shall, and all school managers
10 may attend the same, and there shall be a vacation in the
11 town schools during said training schools, and teachers
12 attending shall receive the same pay as when teaching.
13 County superintendents shall receive pay at the rate of \$2
14 per day and expenses paid.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, January 20, 1897.

Laid on table to be printed, pending reference, on motion by Mr. SALLEY of Somerset.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, *Secretary.*