

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Ninth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 17.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to provide for establishment and maintenance of
Free Public Libraries in Cities and Towns and for the pur-
chase of Books for the use of Plantations out of the money
raised and collected from the Licensing of Dogs.

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

Section 1. All money received by the State treasurer, as
2 provided in section three of chapter two hundred and eighty-
3 seven of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-
4 three as amended by chapter two hundred and ninety-seven
5 of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven,
6 remaining unexpended at the end of the year shall constitute
7 a free library fund, from which shall be paid annually to
8 each city or town where a free library has been established
9 and maintained on the certificate of the municipal officers

10 thereof, a sum equal to the proportionate part of such fund
11 which each has paid into the treasury.

Sect. 2. The money so paid to any city or town shall be
2 expended in maintaining a free library therein.

Sect. 3. The balance of said library fund shall be held by
2 the State treasurer, in trust, for the several cities, towns and
3 plantations from which it was received. If any city or town
4 shall determine by vote to establish a free library therein and
5 shall provide for the care and keeping of the same, and its
6 municipal officers shall so certify to the State treasurer, he
7 shall pay to such city or town its accumulated proportion or
8 part of said fund for the establishment of such library, and
9 thereafter annually its proportion of such fund for the main-
10 tenance of such library.

Sect. 4. So much of said fund as is received from planta-
2 tions shall constitute a fund for the purchase of books for
3 the use of said plantations; said books to be purchased by the
4 State librarian under the direction of the Governor and
5 Council, and loaned to the citizens of any plantation on the
6 application of its officers, or any responsible association or
7 person therein, for the period of not more than six months,
8 at the end of which period said books shall be returned to the
9 State library and on application a new invoice may be loaned.

Sect. 5. No city or town shall be entitled to receive any
2 aid from the State under the provisions of section two and
3 section five of chapter two hundred and forty-two of the
4 Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-three by reason
5 of the expenditures of the fund herein named, either in estab-
6 lishing or in maintaining a free library.

Sect. 6. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this
2 act are hereby repealed.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, January 26, 1899.

Tabled, pending reference to Committee, by Mr. GUERNSEY of Dover,
and ordered printed.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*