

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Sixty-Ninth Legislature.

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HOUSE.

No. 107.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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### AN ACT to establish Travelling Libraries.

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

Section 1. Under such rules and regulations as the governor  
2 and council may prescribe, the state librarian is hereby author-  
3 ized to lend books and documents from the state library to any  
4 responsible citizen of the state, on written application therefor  
5 and on payment of all express and carriage charges; but books  
6 and documents in the library for reference and library use only,  
7 shall not be so loaned.

Sect. 2. On the written application of the officers of any  
2 free library within the state, or any association composed of  
3 five or more persons residing in a town destitute of a free lib-  
4 rary, and on the payment of ten cents per volume in advance,  
5 to cover express and other charges, the state librarian may loan

6 to such library or association, for a period not exceeding six  
7 months, sets of books selected and kept for that purpose, not  
8 exceeding fifty volumes at any one time. Said books are to be  
9 loaned free of charge to the patrons of such free library and to  
10 the citizens of the town where such association is located,  
11 under such rules as the free library commission may prescribe.

Sect. 3. Any person or persons, who on his own request or  
2 written application therefor receives the loan of any books or  
3 documents from the Maine State Library, shall be held liable  
4 for the full value thereof to the state librarian, and if he shall  
5 neglect or fail to return the same to the library within the pre-  
6 scribed time or shall return the same in an injured or mutilated  
7 condition, after due demand and notice, said state librarian  
8 may maintain an action at law against such person for the full  
9 value of such books or documents.

Sect. 4. The governor, with the advice and consent of the  
2 council, shall appoint four persons as library commissioners in  
3 manner following: One person for the term of one year, one  
4 for the term of two years, one for the term of three years, and  
5 one for the term of four years and thereafter one person yearly  
6 for the term of four years. Said commissioners shall serve  
7 without pay and it shall be their duty to encourage the estab-  
8 lishment of free public libraries, to select the books to be pur-  
9 chased for traveling libraries and to advise the state librarian  
10 in reference thereto.

Sect. 5. The state librarian shall be ex-officio a member of  
2 the library commission and secretary thereof. It shall be his  
3 duty to purchase the books for traveling libraries, to cause the

4 same to be catalogued and placed in proper cases for transpor-  
5 tation and use, and to keep accurate accounts of all matters  
6 relating to the expenditures of money, the transportation of  
7 libraries and such other statistics as the commission may  
8 require.

Sect. 6. All expenditures of money shall be made with the  
2 sanction of the governor and council, and the commissioners  
3 shall make to them a yearly report.

STATE OF MAINE.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, February 13, 1899.

Reported by Mr. GUERNSEY of Dover, from Committee on Library,  
and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*