

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Seventieth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 253

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT additional and amendatory to chapter two hundred
forty-two of the Public Laws of 1893 relating to Free Public
Libraries.

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

Section 1. Section five of chapter two hundred forty-two
2 of the Public Laws of 1893 is hereby amended by striking
3 out in the fourth line of said section the words "of less than
4 fifteen hundred inhabitants and" so that said section shall
5 read as follows:

'Sect. 5. The state librarian is hereby authorized and
7 directed to donate from the Maine state library to any town
8 having no free public library owned or controlled by the
9 town, books purchased for that purpose, not exceeding fifty

10 per cent in value the books and documents purchased by said
11 town for the purpose of founding a free public library there-
12 in; said donation in no case to exceed one hundred dollars.'

Sect. 2. Any town is hereby authorized to raise and appro-
2 priate annually a sum of money, not exceeding the legal
3 limit heretofore established, for the purpose of securing to
4 its inhabitants the free use of a library located in an adjoin-
5 ing town, and shall be entitled to receive from the state treas-
6 urer a sum equal to ten per cent of the amount so raised,
7 appropriated and expended yearly.

Sect. 3. Two or more adjacent towns may unite in estab-
2 lishing and maintaining a free public library with branches
3 thereof in each town for the free use of all the inhabitants of
4 said towns, and may each raise and appropriate for that pur-
5 pose annually a sum not exceeding the legal limit heretofore
6 established for maintaining free libraries and such towns
7 shall be subject to all the duties and entitled to all the bene-
8 fits established by the laws now in force concerning free
9 libraries.

Sect. 4. That section three of chapter two hundred forty-
2 two of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred ninety-three
3 (1893) as amended by chapter eleven of the Public Laws of
4 eighteen hundred ninety-five is hereby further amended, so
5 as to read as follows:

'Sect. 3. Any town or city, in which there is a library
7 owned or controlled by a corporation or association, may
8 appropriate a sum not exceeding one dollar for each of its
9 ratable polls in the year next preceding, to procure from
10 such library the free use of its books for all the inhabitants
11 of the town or city, under such restrictions and regulations
12 as shall insure the safety and good usage of the books; and
13 such library shall then be considered a free public library

14 within the meaning of this act, and said town or city shall be
15 entitled to the benefits of the preceding section, provided that
16 any books and documents purchased with said stipend, and
17 all books and documents donated by the state, shall be and
18 remain the property of said municipality.'

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

AUGUSTA, February 28, 1901.

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

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*