

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

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# Seventieth Legislature.

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HOUSE.

No. 266

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT to amend sections one and four of chapter 80 of the  
Public Laws of 1899 relating to truants.

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

Section 1. Section one of chapter 80 of the Public Laws of  
2 1899 is hereby amended by substituting the word 'fourteen'  
3 for the word "fifteen" in the first line, and by adding in the  
4 ninth line after the word "committee" the following: 'and  
5 provided further that children shall not be credited with at-  
6 tendance at a private school until a certificate showing their  
7 names, residences, and attendance at such school signed by

8 the person or persons having such school in charge, shall be  
9 filed with the school officials of the town in which said chil-  
10 dren reside,' so that said section shall read as follows:

'Sect. 1. Every child between the ages of seven and four-  
12 teen inclusive shall attend some public day school during the  
13 time such school is in session; provided that necessary ab-  
14 sence may be excused by the superintending school com-  
15 mittee or superintendent of schools or teacher acting by di-  
16 rection of either; provided also, that such attendance shall  
17 not be required if the child obtain equivalent instruction, for  
18 a like period of time, in an approved private school or in  
19 any other manner approved by the superintending school  
20 committee; provided further, that children shall not be cred-  
21 ited with attendance at a private school until a certificate  
22 showing their names, residences and attendance at such  
23 school signed by the person or persons having such school  
24 in charge, shall be filed with the school officials of the town  
25 in which said children reside; and provided further, that the  
26 superintending school committee may exclude from the pub-  
27 lic schools any child whose physical or mental condition  
28 makes it inexpedient for him to attend. All persons having  
29 children under their control shall cause them to attend school  
30 as provided in this section, and for every neglect of such  
31 duty shall forfeit a sum not exceeding twenty-five dollars  
32 to the treasurer of the city or town or shall be imprisoned  
33 not exceeding thirty days.'

Sect. 2. Section four is hereby amended as follows: By  
2 substituting in the second line for the words "six or more

3 times" the words 'at six or more consecutive sessions,' so  
4 that the section as amended will read as follows:

'Sect. 4. If a child without sufficient excuse, shall be ab-  
6 sent from school at six or more consecutive sessions during  
7 any term, he shall be deemed an habitual truant, and the sup-  
8 erintending school committee shall notify him and any person  
9 under whose control he may be that unless he conforms to  
10 section one of this act, the provisions of the two following  
11 sections will be enforced against them; and if thereafter such  
12 child continues irregular in attendance, the truant officers or  
13 any of them shall, when so directed by the school committee  
14 or superintendent in writing, enforce said provisions by com-  
15 plaint.'

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

AUGUSTA, March 1, 1901.

Reported by Mr. GILMORE of Turner, from Committee on Education,  
and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*