

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Seventy-first Legislature.

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HOUSE.

No. 175

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT to amend section three of chapter two hundred and sixteen of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-three, relating to the conveyance of scholars and to the maintenance of public schools.

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

Section 1. Section three of chapter two hundred and sixteen of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-three, as amended by chapter two hundred and ninety-five of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, and by chapters forty-eight and seventy-four of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and by chapter two hundred and three of the Public Laws of nineteen hundred and one, is further amended by inserting between the

9 words "vote" and "instruct" in the seventeenth line of said  
10 section, as last amended, the words 'at the annual meeting,  
11 after the said committee shall have made a written recom-  
12 mendation to that effect,' so that said section, as amended  
13 by this act, shall read as follows:

'Sect. 3. This act shall not abolish or change the location  
15 of any school legally established at the time of its passage;  
16 but any town at its annual meeting, or at a meeting called for  
17 the purpose, may determine the number and location of its  
18 schools; and may discontinue them or change their location;  
19 but such discontinuance or change of location shall be made  
20 only on the written recommendation of the superintending  
21 school committee, and on conditions proper to preserve the  
22 just rights and privileges of the inhabitants for whose benefit  
23 such schools were established; provided, however, that in  
24 case of any school having, as now established, or which shall  
25 hereafter have, too few scholars for its profitable mainte-  
26 nance, the superintending school committee may suspend the  
27 operation of such school for not more than one year unless  
28 otherwise instructed by the town, but any public school fail-  
29 ing to maintain an average attendance for any school year,  
30 of at least eight pupils, shall be and hereby is suspended,  
31 unless the town in which said school is located shall by vote,  
32 at the annual meeting after the said committee shall have  
33 made a written recommendation to that effect, instruct its  
34 superintending school committee to maintain said school.  
35 The superintendent of schools in each town shall procure the  
36 conveyance of all public school pupils residing in his town,  
37 a part or the whole of the distance, to and from the nearest  
38 suitable school, for the number of weeks for which schools  
39 are maintained in each year, when such pupils reside at such  
40 a distance from the said school as in the judgment of the  
41 superintending school committee shall render such convey-

42 ance necessary. Provided, however, that the superintending  
43 school committee may authorize the superintendent of schools  
44 to pay the board of any pupil or pupils at a suitable place  
45 near any established school instead of providing conveyance  
46 for said pupil or pupils, when in their judgment it may be  
47 done at an equal or less expense than by conveyance.'

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

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
AUGUSTA, February 24, 1903.

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

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*