

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE.

205

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT RELATIVE to the Appointment of School Physi-
cians.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Section 1. The school committee of every city and town
2 shall appoint one or more school physicians and shall assign
3 one to the medical inspection of not over 1000 pupils of the
4 public schools within its city or town and shall provide them
5 with all proper facilities for the performance of their duties
6 as prescribed in this Act, provided, however, the said com-
7 mittee has been so authorized by vote of town at regular town
8 meeting or at a special town meeting called for that purpose.

Sect. 2. Every school physician shall make a prompt ex-
2 amination and diagnosis of all children referred to him as

3 hereinafter provided, and such further examination of teach-
4 ers, janitors and school buildings as in his opinion the pro-
5 tection of the health of the pupils may require.

Sect. 3. The pupils so examined by school physicians when
2 treatment is necessary shall not be referred to the school
3 physicians for such treatment except the school physician be
4 the regular family physician of such pupil, but shall be re-
5 ferred to the regular family physician of such pupil through
6 the parents or guardian.

Sect. 4. The school committee shall cause to be referred to
2 a school physician for examination and diagnosis every child
3 returning to a school without a certificate from the board of
4 health or family physician after absence on account of illness
5 or from unknown cause; and every child in the schools under
6 its jurisdiction who shows signs of being in ill health or of
7 suffering from infectious or contagious diseases, unless he is
8 at once excluded from school by the teacher; except that in
9 case of schools in remote and isolated situations, the school
10 committee may make such other arrangements as may best
11 carry out the purposes of this act.

Sect. 5. The school committee shall cause notice of disease
2 or defects, if any, from which any child is found to be suffer-
3 ing to be sent home to his parents or guardian. Whenever a
4 child shows symptoms of smallpox, scarlet fever, measles,
5 chickenpox, tuberculosis, diphtheria or influenza, tonsillitis,
6 whooping cough, mumps, scabies or trachomo, he shall be
7 sent home immediately or as soon as safe and proper convey-

8 ance can be found and the board of health and superintendent
9 of schools shall at once be notified.

Sect. 6. The school committee of every city or town shall
2 cause every child in the public schools to be separately and
3 carefully tested and examined at least once in every school
4 year to ascertain whether he is suffering from defective sight
5 or hearing or from any other disability or defect tending to
6 prevent his receiving the full benefit of his school work, or re-
7 quiring a modification of the school work in order to prevent
8 injury to the child or to secure the best educational results.
9 Test of sight and hearing shall be made by the teachers or by
10 the school physicians. The committee shall cause notice of
11 any defect or disability requiring treatment to be sent to the
12 parent or guardian of the child, and shall require a physical
13 record of each child to be kept in such form as the State
14 Superintendent of Public Schools shall prescribe after con-
15 sultation with the State Board of Health.

Sect. 7. The State Superintendent of Public Schools shall
2 prescribe after consultation with the State Board of Health
3 the directions for tests of sight and hearing and shall pre-
4 scribe and furnish to the school committees suitable rules of
5 instruction, test cards, blanks, record books and other useful
6 appliances for carrying out the purposes of this act. The
7 State Superintendent of public schools may expend during
8 the year nineteen hundred and nine a sum not greater than
9 five hundred dollars for the purpose of supplying the material
10 required for this act.

Sect. 8. Expenses which a city or town may incur by virtue of the authority herein vested in the school committee shall not exceed the amount appropriated for that purpose in cities by the city council and in towns by a town meeting. The appropriation shall precede any expenditure of any indebtedness which may be incurred under this act and the sum appropriated shall be deemed sufficient appropriation in the municipality where it is made. Such appropriation need not specify to what section of the act it shall apply and may be voted as a total appropriation to be applied in carrying out the purposes of this act.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, Feb. 16, 1909.

Reported by Mr. LUDGATE from Committee on Education and ordered printed under joint rules.

E. M. THOMPSON, *Clerk.*