

# 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

---

---

SENATE.

No. 400

---

---

## STATE OF MAINE.

---

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

---

AN ACT to amend chapter 15 of the Revised Statutes in relation to education.

---

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

Section 1. Section 51 of chapter 15 of the Revised Statutes as amended by chapter 48 of the Public Laws of 1905, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "chapter" in the fifteenth line thereof the following:

“Truant officers, when so directed in writing by the superintendent of schools or the superintending school committee of their respective towns, may visit the manufacturing, mechanical, mercantile and other business establishments in their several cities and towns during the hours in which the public schools of such city or town are in session, and ascertain whether any minors under the age of fifteen years are em-

12 ployed therein, and shall report any cases of such employ-  
13 ment to the superintendent of schools or the superintending  
14 school committee of their city or town, and if employed  
15 therein contrary to the provisions of chapter 40, shall also re-  
16 port such illegal employment to the inspector of factories,  
17 workshops, mines and quarries. The owner, superinten-  
18 dent, overseer or agent of all manufacturing, mechanical,  
19 mercantile or other business establishments, upon request,  
20 shall produce for the inspection of such truant officers all  
21 certified copies of records of birth and baptism, passports and  
22 age and schooling certificates required to be kept on file in  
23 such establishments under chapter 40 of the Revised Sta-  
24 tutes,' so that said section when amended shall read as fol-  
25 lows:

'Section 51. Cities and towns shall annually elect one or  
27 more persons, to be designated truant officers, who shall in-  
28 quire into all cases of neglect of the duties prescribed in sec-  
29 tion forty-nine and ascertain the reasons therefor and shall  
30 promptly report the same to the superintending school com-  
31 mittee, and such truant officers or any of them shall, when so  
32 directed by the school committee or superintendent in writ-  
33 ing, prosecute in the name of the city or town, any person  
34 neglecting to perform the duties prescribed in said section,  
35 by promptly entering a complaint before a magistrate; and  
36 said officers shall, when notified by any teacher that any pupil  
37 is irregular in attendance, arrest and take such pupil to school  
38 when found truant; and, further, such officers shall enforce

39 the provisions of sections one hundred and eighteen to one  
40 hundred and twenty, inclusive, of this chapter. Truant of-  
41 ficers, when so directed in writing by the superintendent of  
42 schools or the superintending school committee of their re-  
43 spective towns, may visit the manufacturing, mechanical,  
44 mercantile and other business establishments in their several  
45 cities and towns during the hours in which the public schools  
46 of such city or town are in session, and ascertain whether  
47 any minors under the age of fifteen years are employed there-  
48 in, and shall report in writing any cases of such employment  
49 to the superintendent of schools or the superintending school  
50 committee of their city or town, and if employed therein con-  
51 trary to the provisions of chapter 40, shall also report in writ-  
52 ing such illegal employment to the inspector of factories,  
53 workshops, mines and quarries. The owner, superintend-  
54 ent, overseer or agent of all manufacturing, mechanical, mer-  
55 cantile or other business establishments, upon request, shall  
56 produce for the inspection of such truant officers, all certi-  
57 fied copies of records of birth and baptism, passports and age  
58 and schooling certificates required to be kept on file in such  
59 establishments under chapter 40 of the Revised Statutes.  
60 Every city or town neglecting to elect truant officers, and  
61 truant officers neglecting any duty required of them under  
62 the provisions of this chapter, shall forfeit not less than ten  
63 nor more than fifty dollars. The municipal officers shall fix  
64 the compensation of the truant officers elected as prescribed  
65 in this section. Superintending school committees may fill

66 vacancies occurring during the year, and shall elect truant of-  
67 ficers at their first meeting after the annual meeting of the  
68 town, in case the town neglects to do so, or the truant officers  
69 elect, or any of them, fail to qualify.

---

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE,

March 12, 1909.

Reported by Mr. WALKER from Committee on Education  
and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

F. G. FARRINGTON, *Secretary.*