

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 761

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*House of Representatives, March 28, 1911.*

*Introduced by Mr. Scates of Westbrook, who referred it to Committee on Legal Affairs. Committee referred it to the next Legislature. House substituted bill for report and ordered printed under the joint rules.*

*C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT to amend Sections thirty-four (34) and thirty-five (35) of Chapter sixteen (16) of the Revised Statutes, relating to conveyance of pews in meeting houses to organized parishes or incorporated churches.

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

Section 1. Section thirty-four of chapter sixteen of the  
2 Revised Statutes is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

'Sect. 34. When it is deemed expedient by any organized  
4 parish or incorporated church to become the owner of the  
5 pews in any meeting house used by it as a place of regular  
6 worship, a meeting of the owners and occupants thereof  
7 may be called, as provided in section six, and a majority of

8 such pew owners and occupants may vote to convey the  
9 pews by them owned or occupied to such parish or incor-  
10 porated church. If the owners or occupants of any of the  
11 pews in such meeting house are unknown to the assessors  
12 they shall give notice, additional to that provided herein, by  
13 publishing the call for such meeting in some newspaper pub-  
14 lished in the county where such meeting house is located at  
15 least seven days before the time appointed for said meeting.'

Sect. 2. Section thirty-five of chapter sixteen of the Re-  
2 vised Statutes is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

'Sect. 35. Any owner or occupant of a pew in such meeting  
4 house who expresses his dissent from such vote in writing  
5 to the clerk of the parish or incorporated church within one  
6 month from the time of holding such meeting, shall have  
7 his pew appraised, as provided in section thirty-eight, and  
8 the appraised value shall be tendered to him in satisfaction  
9 of his claim for compensation and he shall then deliver a  
10 deed of such pew to the parish or incorporated church. If  
11 such dissent is not so expressed such pew shall be forever  
12 forfeited to the parish or incorporated church.'

Sect. 3. The clerk, treasurer and a majority of the busi-  
2 ness committee of every independent local church incorpo-  
3 rated under provisions of the Revised Statutes shall prepare  
4 a certificate in form approved by the attorney general set-  
5 ting forth the name of such church, the town or city where  
6 located and the number and names of its business committee  
7 and shall sign and make oath to it and shall file the same in

8 the office of the secretary of state, and the secretary of state  
9 shall keep a list of the same in a book prepared for that pur-  
10 pose showing the name, location and date of organization of  
11 such church corporation.

The name of any incorporated church may be changed by  
13 vote in a legal meeting, and notice thereof shall be given to  
14 the secretary of state with the same effect as prescribed by  
15 statute for changing the names of corporations.