

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 623

House of Representatives, March 10, 1915.

*Reported by Mr. Michaud from Committee on Public Health
and ordered printed under joint rules.*

FORTUNAT BELLEAU, Clerk Pro Tem.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to provide for the care and treatment of tubercular
persons.

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

Section 1. That the state shall establish and maintain by
2 building, lease or by purchase two or more sanatoriums
3 in such districts of the state as shall seem best to serve the
4 needs of the people for the care and treatment of persons
5 affected with tuberculosis.

Where lease or purchase is made the state shall have the
7 right to enlarge or otherwise adapt the property to meet
8 the needs of the situation; and such additions or improve-
9 ments shall be considered permanent. At the expiration of

10 the original lease of any property for use as a tuberculosis
11 sanatorium the state shall have the right of release or of
12 purchase.

Sect. 2. Persons having legal residence in Maine shall
2 be admitted to these sanatoriums from any part of the State ;
3 *provided* after *due* examination by any reputable physician
4 or the superintendent of the sanatorium said person shall
5 be found to be suffering from tuberculosis. According to
6 the capacity of the sanatorium, such patients shall be eligible
7 for treatment in all stages of the disease.

Whenever a patient is received for treatment in any of
9 these state sanatoriums the charge for treatment shall not
10 exceed \$5.00 per week. If upon due inquiry into the cir-
11 cumstances of a patient, the superintendent of the sanato-
12 rium finds such patient or his relatives unable to pay for
13 his care and treatment in whole or in part, the charge for
14 such care and treatment shall be laid upon the state.

No discrimination shall be made in the accommodation,
16 care or treatment of any patient because of the fact that
17 the patient or his relatives do or do not contribute in whole
18 or in part to the charge for treatment; and no officer or em-
19 ployee of such state sanatorium shall accept from any pa-
20 tient thereof any fee or gratuity whatever for any service
21 rendered.

Sect. 3. The government of the several sanatoriums shall
2 be vested in a "Board of Trustees for Tuberculosis Sana-
3 toriums. Said Board of Trustees shall consist of five mem-

4 bers who shall be residents of the state, appointed by the
5 Governor and approved by his Council as soon as may be
6 after the passage of this act. The original appointments
7 shall be for the respective terms of five, four, three, two and
8 one years. Thereafter one member shall be appointed an-
9 nually for the full term, which shall be five years, except
10 the appointment of persons to fill vacancies shall be made
11 for the unexpired term. No more than three of any one
12 political party shall serve on the Board of Trustees at one
13 time.

It shall be the duty of the said board as soon as prac-
15 ticable to erect necessary buildings or to alter any build-
16 ings, on property acquired, for sanatorium use in the proper
17 care and treatment of persons sick with tuberculosis. The
18 said board shall have the general management and super-
19 vision of the State Tuberculosis Sanatoriums and one or
20 more of said trustees shall visit each institution under su-
21 pervision at least once each month. The said Board of
22 Trustees shall on or before the first day of October of each
23 year furnish a report to the Governor and Council con-
24 taining a history of the several sanatoriums for the year
25 and a complete statement of all accounts, with all the funds,
26 general and special, appropriated or belonging to said sana-
27 toria, including a detailed statement of disbursements.

Sect. 4. The Board of Trustees may appoint the super-
2 intendents, physicians, assistants and other employes, and
3 fix the salaries of the same, for the proper administration

4 of the several sanatoriums; and said board shall have like
5 duties and like powers as those required of and vested in
6 the Trustees of other State Hospitals.

Sect. 5. The Governor and Council shall, before pay-
2 ment, approve all bills of the Board of Trustees contracted
3 in establishing and maintaining or operating the State Tuber-
4 culosis Sanatoriums.

Sect. 6. The Board of Trustees shall have authority to
2 accept and hold in trust for the state, any grant or devise
3 of land, or any gift or bequest of money or other personal
4 property, or any donation to be applied, principal or in-
5 come, or both for the benefit of either or all said sanatoriums
6 and apply the same in accordance with the terms of the
7 gift.

Sect. 7. The members of the Board of Trustees shall
2 receive five (5) dollars per diem when on official business
3 connected with these several tuberculosis sanatoriums plus
4 their necessary expenses.

Sect. 8. For carrying out of the provisions of this act
2 the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars shall be and hereby
3 is appropriated for use within the years 1915 and 1916.

Sect. 9. Your Committee upon Public Health having in-
2 spected the tubercular sanatoriums respectively located at
3 Fairfield and Bangor recommend the purchase of said sana-
4 toriums by the State of Maine, and that there be taken
5 from the appropriation recommended under Section 8 of
6 this act the sum of twenty thousand dollars and used for the
7 purchase of said sanatoriums.