

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 846

House of Representatives, March 18, 1915.

*Reported by Mr. Conners from Committee on Judiciary, and
ordered printed under joint rules.*

C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to amend section nineteen of chapter sixteen of the
Revised Statutes so as to create the Trustees of the local
Methodist Episcopal Churches a corporation.

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

Section nineteen of chapter sixteen of the revised statutes
2 is hereby amended by adding at the end of said section the
3 words: 'Trustees of the local Methodist Episcopal churches
4 are created a corporation with all the rights and privileges of
5 corporations, subject to the restrictions contained in the book
6 of discipline of the Methodist Episcopal church,' so that
7 said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 19. The church wardens of Episcopal churches, the

9 stewards or trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church,
10 and the deacons of all other Protestant churches, are so far
11 corporations as to take, in succession, all grants and gifts
12 of real and personal estate made to their churches, or to
13 them and their successors; and if the ministers, elders or
14 vestrymen are joined with them in such grants or gifts, the
15 two classes of officers shall be corporations for that pur-
16 pose. For the purpose of organizing any such corporations,
17 one or more members of said corporation may call a meet-
18 ing thereof by a notice posted upon the outer door of the
19 meeting-house or place of public worship of their parish
20 or society at least seven days before the time of holding
21 such meeting; or, if there is no such meeting-house or place
22 of public worship, by a notice posted in two public and con-
23 spicuous places in the town wherein said parish or society
24 is located. At such meeting the corporation may organize,
25 adopt a corporate name, and elect such officers as its by-
26 laws shall prescribe. Said corporations shall have the pow-
27 ers granted to parishes by section three of this chapter, and
28 may make such contracts in relation to such estate, its im-
29 provement or disposal, as they may be authorized under the
30 rules of their church, or instructed by the church or society
31 for which they hold such estate in trust, to make, which
32 contracts may be enforced by or against them, as in other
33 cases; provided, however, that no disposal of such estate
34 shall be made, inconsistent with the terms of the grant by

35 which it is held. Trustees of the local Methodist Episcopal
36 churches are created a corporation with all the rights and
37 privileges of corporations, subject to the restrictions con-
38 tained in the book of discipline of the Methodist Episcopal
39 church.'