

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 13

House of Representatives, Jan. 18, 1917.

Tabled pending printing under the rules by Mr. Farrington of Augusta. Five Hundred copies ordered printed

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Swift of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to amend Chapter 416 of the Private and Special
Laws of 1907, relating to the Schools of the city of
Augusta.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in
Legislature assembled, as follows:*

Section 1. Section two of chapter four hundred sixteen
2 of the private and special laws of nineteen hundred seven is
3 hereby amended by adding after the word "meetings" in the
4 twenty-second line of said section the following "but said
5 provision for publication of said notice in newspapers is
6 directory only and failure to give such notice shall not

7 invalidate any meeting, or the proceedings thereof, provided
8 the same is otherwise regularly called'; so that said section
9 as amended shall read as follows:

'Section 2. On the first Monday of June, nineteen hun-
2 dred and seven, at half past seven o'clock in the evening, the
3 electors of the several wards in the city of Augusta, qualified
4 to vote at municipal elections therein, and without regard to
5 their political affiliations, shall meet in such place in the ward
6 as the mayor and aldermen of said city may designate in
7 their warrants, for the purpose of electing, in each ward, one
8 member of the board of education. Said meeting shall be
9 called by the mayor and aldermen by a warrant for each
10 ward under their hands, stating the time, place and purposes
11 of the meeting, true and attested copies whereof shall be
12 posted by the city marshal or any constable of the said city
13 at least seven days before the day of the meeting and in at
14 least two public and conspicuous places in the ward. The
15 marshal or said constable shall cause the original warrants,
16 with a return of his doings thereon, to be delivered to the
17 chairman of said respective ward meetings, on the date
18 thereof, and the secretaries of said meetings shall respect-
19 ively make records thereof. The city clerk shall also cause a
20 notice of such meeting to be published in at least two news-
21 papers in the city of Augusta, representing if possible,
22 different political parties, between the time of issuing the
23 warrants and the time appointed for said meetings. But
24 said provision for publication of said notice in newspapers is

25 directory only and failure to give such notice shall not in-
26 validate any meeting, or the proceedings thereof, provided
27 the same is otherwise regularly called. Said ward meetings
28 shall be respectively organized by the choice of a chairman
29 and secretary by ballot or otherwise, and shall thereupon, by
30 ballot or otherwise as may be determined, at the meeting,
31 proceed to the election of a member of said board of educa-
32 tion, who shall be a resident of the ward where elected. The
33 tenure of office of the members so elected shall be as follows:
34 those from wards one, two and three, until the first Monday
35 of June, nineteen hundred and eight; those from wards four,
36 five and six, until the first Monday of June, nineteen hun-
37 dred and nine; and those from wards seven and eight, until
38 the first Monday of June, nineteen hundred and ten; and in
39 each instance, until others are elected in their places. On
40 each first Monday of June thereafter, at half past seven
41 o'clock in the evening, commencing with the year nineteen
42 hundred and eight, one member of said board shall be
43 chosen by each of those wards whose members' terms are
44 about to expire, and the term of office shall be three years,
45 and until others shall be elected in their places. Meetings
46 for the purpose shall be called and conducted in the manner
47 prescribed for the meetings of nineteen hundred and seven.
48 In case of a vacancy, a member may be chosen by the ward
49 in which the vacancy exists to fill the unexpired term, at a
50 meeting specially called for the purpose by the mayor and
51 aldermen, and conducted like other similar meetings.'

Sect. 2. Section four of said chapter is hereby amended
2 by striking out all of said section after the word "tax" in the
3 fortieth line thereof and adding instead the following: 'A
4 special meeting may be called at any time in the manner
5 hereinbefore prescribed, when in the opinion of the chair-
6 man of the board, expressed in his written request to the
7 mayor, the welfare of the public schools demands it. At any
8 meeting authorized by this section, the electors present may
9 by vote borrow money for the building and reconstruction of
10 schoolhouses and the purchase of lots therefor'; so that said
11 section as amended shall read as follows:

'Section 4. On the second Monday of May at half past
2 seven o'clock in the evening, annually, commencing with the
3 year nineteen hundred and eight, a general meeting of the
4 citizens of said city, qualified to vote at municipal elections
5 therein, and without regard to their political affiliations, shall
6 be convened in the city hall of said city. Such meeting shall
7 be called in the manner prescribed for calling ward meetings
8 in section two of this act, except that there shall be but one
9 original warrant, true and attested copies whereof shall be
10 posted by the city marshal or any constable of said city at
11 least seven days before the day of the meeting, and in at
12 least two public and conspicuous places in each ward. The
13 marshal or said constable shall deliver the original warrant,
14 with a return of his doings thereon, to the moderator of said
15 meeting when elected, and the secretary of the meeting shall
16 make a record thereof. The chairman of the board, if

17 present, or in his absence any member of the board, or if no
18 such member is present any citizen qualified to vote at
19 municipal elections in said city may call the meeting to order,
20 and preside until the election of a moderator. The meeting
21 shall immediately proceed, by ballot or otherwise, to the
22 choice of a moderator and a secretary. The moderator shall
23 preside with the power of moderators of town meetings, and
24 together with the secretary shall be duly sworn by any
25 justice of the peace of said city. A record of such oaths
26 shall be made by the secretary. At such meeting the board
27 of education shall submit a printed report, the edition
28 whereof shall consist of not less than fifteen hundred copies,
29 of the affairs and condition of the city schools for the ending
30 on the first day of April next preceding the meeting, together
31 with an estimate of the amount needed for school purposes
32 for the current year. The said electors present shall have
33 power to raise by vote for the support of the public schools
34 in said city, for the current year ending on the first day of
35 April such sum, not less than the amount required by the
36 general laws of the state, as they may deem necessary for
37 that purpose. The secretary shall forthwith, or within the
38 time prescribed by the meeting, certify the amount thereof to
39 the assessors of said city, and it shall be included with, and
40 assessed like other city taxes, and all the provisions of law
41 relating to the assessment and collection of taxes shall be
42 applicable to such tax. A special meeting may be called at
43 any time in the manner hereinbefore prescribed, when in the

44 opinion of the chairman of the board, expressed in his
45 written request to the mayor, the welfare of the public
46 schools demands it. At any meeting authorized by this sec-
47 tion the electors present may by vote borrow money for the
48 building and reconstruction of schoolhouses and the pur-
49 chase of lots therefor.'