

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 577

House of Representatives, March 15, 1917.

Printed under joint rules.

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to amend Section seventeen of Chapter one hundred
forty-five of the Revised Statutes of nineteen hundred
sixteen relating to the examination and commitment of
persons to Insane Hospitals.

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

Section seventeen of chapter one hundred forty-five of
2 the Revised Statutes of nineteen hundred sixteen is hereby
3 amended by inserting after the word "trustees" in the nine-
4 tenth line thereof, the words: 'Pending the issue of such
5 certificate by the municipal officers such superintendent
6 may receive into his hospital any person so alleged on com-
7 plaint to be insane, provided such person be accompanied

8 by a copy of the complaint and physician's certificate, which
9 certificate shall set forth that in the judgment of the phy-
10 sician the condition of said person is such that immediate
11 restraint or detention is necessary for his comfort and safe-
12 ty, and provided further that unless within ten days there-
13 after said superintendent shall be furnished with the cer-
14 tificate hereinbefore provided, the detention of such per-
15 son shall cease.' So that said section as amended shall read
16 as follows:

'Sect. 17. Insane persons not thus sent to any hospital
2 shall be subject to examination as hereinafter provided here-
3 in. The municipal officers of towns shall constitute a board
4 of examiners, and on complaint in writing of any blood rel-
5 ative, husband or wife of said alleged insane person, or of
6 any justice of the peace, they shall immediately inquire into
7 the constitution of any person in said town alleged to be
8 insane; shall appoint a time and place for a hearing by
9 them of the allegations of said complaint, and shall cause
10 to be given in hand to the person so alleged to be insane, at
11 least twenty-four hours prior to the time of said hearing, a
12 true copy of said complaint, together with a notice of the
13 time and place of said hearing and that he has the right and
14 will be given opportunity then and there to be heard in the
15 matter; shall call before them all testimony necessary for
16 a full understanding of the case; and if they think such
17 person insane and that his comfort and safety or that of
18 others interested will thereby be promoted, they shall forth-

19 with send him to one of the insane hospitals with a certifi-
20 cate stating the fact of his insanity and the town in which
21 he resided or was found at the time of examination, and
22 directing the superintendent to receive and detain him un-
23 til he is restored or discharged by law or by the superin-
24 tendent or trustees. Pending the issue of such certificate
25 by the municipal officers such superintendent may receive
26 into his hospital any person so alleged on complaint to be
27 insane, provided such person be accompanied by a copy of
28 the complaint and physician's certificate, which certificate
29 shall set forth that in the judgment of the physician the con-
30 dition of said person is such that immediate care or deten-
31 tion is necessary for his comfort and safety and provided
32 further that unless within ten days thereafter said superin-
33 tendent shall be furnished with the certificate hereinbefore
34 provided, the detention of such person shall cease. They
35 shall keep a record of their doings and furnish a copy to
36 any interested person requesting and paying for it.'