

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 585

House of Representatives, March 15, 1917.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and five hundred copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Dutton of Bingham.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend Section Sixty-eight of Chapter Sixteen of the Revised Statutes Relating to the Election of Truant Officers.

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

Section sixty-eight of chapter sixteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by adding to said section the following words: 'The superintending school committee may authorize the superintendent of schools to act as a truant officer and when so authorized he shall have the same powers and may perform the same duties as other truant officers

7 elected as provided in this section,' so that said section when
8 amended shall read as follows :

'Sect. 68. The superintending school committee of every
2 city and town shall annually elect one or more persons, to
3 be designated truant officers, who shall inquire into all cases
4 of neglect of the duties prescribed in section sixty-six and
5 ascertain the reasons therefor and shall promptly report the
6 same to the superintending school committee, and such tru-
7 ant officers or any of them, shall, when so directed by the
8 school committee or superintendent, in writing, prosecute
9 in the name of the state any person neglecting to perform
10 the duties prescribed in said section, by promptly entering
11 a complaint before a magistrate; and said officer shall, when
12 notified by any teacher that any pupil is irregular in attend-
13 ance, arrest and take such pupil to school when found tru-
14 ant; and further such officers shall enforce the provisions
15 of sections one hundred forty-nine to one hundred fifty-
16 one, inclusive, of this chapter. Truant officers, when so
17 directed in writing by the superintendent of schools or the
18 superintending school committee of their respective towns
19 may visit the manufacturing, mechanical, mercantile and
20 other business establishments in their several cities and
21 towns during the hours in which the public schools of such
22 city or town or in session, and ascertain whether any minors
23 under the age of fourteen years are employed therein, and
24 shall report in writing any cases of such employment to the
25 superintendent of schools or the superintending school com-

26 mittee of their city or town; and if any minors are employed
27 therein contrary to the provisions of chapter forty-nine, they
28 shall also report in writing such illegal employment to the
29 commissioner of labor and industry. The owner, superin-
30 tendent, overseer or agent of all manufacturing, mechani-
31 cal, mercantile or other business establishments, upon re-
32 quest shall produce for the inspection of such truant officers
33 all work permits and vacation permits required to be kept
34 on file in such establishments under chapter forty-nine.
35 Superintending school committees shall elect truant officers
36 at their first meeting after the annual meeting of the town;
37 they shall fill any vacancies occurring during the year and
38 they may fix the compensation of said officers and said com-
39 pensation shall be paid from the appropriation made for the
40 salaries of municipal officers. Any truant officer neglect-
41 ing any duty required of him under the provisions of this
42 chapter shall be liable to a fine of not less than ten, nor
43 more than fifty dollars; and any town failing through its
44 superintending school committee to meet said provisions
45 shall be liable to the provisions of section nineteen of this
46 chapter. The superintending school committee may author-
47 ize the superintendent of schools to act as a truant officer
48 and when so authorized he shall have the same powers and
49 may perform the same duties as other truant officers elected
50 as provided in this section.'