

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 586

House of Representatives, March 15, 1917.

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

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Gurney of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to amend Section 2 of Chapter 65 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine, in relation to divorce.

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

Section 2 of chapter 65 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine is hereby amended by inserting the words 'resided in this state and' after the words "state or," in the tenth line of said section, and striking out the words "or had resided here in good faith for one year prior to the commencement of proceedings," in the twelfth and thirteenth lines of said section, so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 2. A divorce from the bonds of matrimony may be
2 decreed in the county where either party resides at the com-
3 mencement of proceedings, for causes of adultery, impo-
4 tence, extreme cruelty, utter desertion continued for three
5 consecutive years next prior to the filing of the libel, gross
6 and confirmed habits of intoxication from the use of intoxi-
7 cating liquors, opium or other drugs, cruel or abusive treat-
8 ment, or on the libel of the wife, where the husband being
9 of sufficient ability or being able to labor and provide for
10 her, grossly or wantonly and cruelly refuses or neglects to
11 provide suitable maintenance for her; provided, that the
12 parties were married in this state or resided in this state
13 and cohabited here after marriage, or if the libelant resided
14 here when the cause of divorce accrued, or if the libelee is
15 a resident of this state. But when both parties have been
16 guilty of adultery, or there is a collusion between them to
17 procure a divorce, it shall not be granted. Either party may
18 be a witness. The supreme judicial court has jurisdiction
19 of libels for divorce in all counties except the county of
20 Cumberland.’