

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 252

In Senate, March 1, 1917.

*Reported by Mr. Walker from Committee on Education and
ordered printed under joint rules.*

W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.

Presented by Mr. Walker of Somerset.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to amend section one hundred seventeen of chapter
sixteen of the Revised Statutes relating to the employment
of agents for schools in unorganized townships.

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

Section one hundred seventeen of chapter sixteen of the
2 Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the
3 words "two thousand two hundred" in the ninth line thereof
4 and substituting in place thereof the words 'three thousand'
5 so that said section when amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 117. The state superintendent of public schools may

2 appoint agents for the several townships in which schools
3 shall be established under section one hundred and fifteen,
4 who shall, under the direction of the state superintendent,
5 enumerate the pupils, assess and collect the per capita tax,
6 employ the teacher and attend to all necessary details in
7 connection with said school; for which purpose the state
8 superintendent is hereby authorized to expend annually from
9 the appropriation for the support of schools in unorganized
10 townships a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars. Said
11 agents in the collection of the per capita tax aforesaid, shall
12 have the same powers and may use the same methods as
13 collectors of taxes in towns are authorized to exercise and
14 use for the collecting of personal and poll-taxes committed
15 to them; said agents may act as truant officers in their sev-
16 eral townships, and may in their discretion compel the reg-
17 ular daily attendance at school of every child in their town-
18 ships between the seventh and seventeenth anniversaries of
19 his birth by arresting and taking to school any child when
20 absent therefrom, and any parent or guardian of any such
21 child or children, wilfully refusing to allow said children
22 under his control to attend school, or opposing said agent
23 in arresting and taking said children to school, may be prose-
24 cuted by said agent in the name of the state before the near-
25 est trial justice, and if found guilty shall forfeit a sum not
26 exceeding twenty dollars for the use of the schools in the
27 township wherein said children are residents, or shall be
28 imprisoned for not exceeding thirty days. The state super-

29 intendent may supply schoolbooks for the schools established
30 under said sections under such conditions as to the purchase
31 and care thereof as he may deem proper.'

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Additional funds are required to meet the expense for services and travel of agents who are appointed to have charge of schools in the unorganized townships in order that the quality of such service may be maintained.