

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 274

In Senate, March 2, 1917.

Referred to Committee on Education and one thousand copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.

Presented by Mr. Ames of Washington.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to amend section thirty of chapter sixteen of the Revised Statutes of nineteen hundred sixteen relating to the age of pupils allowed to attend the public schools.

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

Section thirty of chapter sixteen of the Revised Statutes 2 is hereby amended by adding to said section the following 3 words:

'Provided, however, that the superintending school com- 2 mittee of any city or town may, and upon the filing of a 3 petition not less than one month before the annual town

4 meeting by the parents or guardians of thirty or more chil-
5 dren between four and six years of age living within a
6 mile of a public elementary school, shall, unless otherwise
7 instructed by the city or town, maintain a kindergarten or
8 kindergartens as a part of the common school course, and
9 pupils shall be allowed to attend such a kindergarten or
10 kindergartens upon reaching the age of four years; provided
11 further, that unless the average daily attendance in any
12 kindergarten shall be fifteen or more for any school year
13 the superintending school committee, upon the recom-
14 mendation of the superintendent of schools, may discon-
15 tinue the school; provided further, that no person shall be
16 allowed to teach in any kindergarten maintained under the
17 provisions of this section who has not completed at least
18 a two years' course in kindergarten training and received a
19 certificate or diploma from a recognized kindergarten
20 training school approved by the state superintendent of
21 public schools,' so that said section when amended shall
22 read as follows:

'Sect. 30. The age of pupils allowed to attend the public
2 schools of the state is hereby fixed between the ages of five
3 and twenty-one years; and every child between the said ages
4 shall have the right to attend the public schools in the town
5 in which his parent or guardian has a legal residence, sub-
6 ject to such reasonable regulations as to the numbers and
7 qualifications of pupils to be admitted to the respective
8 schools and as to other school matters as the superintend-

9 ing school committee shall from time to time prescribe;
10 provided, however, that the superintending school commit-
11 tee of any city or town may, and upon the petition of the
12 parents or guardians of thirty or more children between
13 four and six years of age living within a mile of a public
14 elementary school, shall, unless otherwise instructed by the
15 town or city, maintain a kindergarten or kindergartens as
16 a part of the common school course, and pupils shall be
17 allowed to attend such a kindergarten or kindergartens upon
18 reaching the age of four years; provided further, that un-
19 less the average daily attendance in any kindergarten shall
20 be fifteen or more for any school year the superintending
21 school committee, upon the recommendation of the super-
22 intendent of schools, may discontinue the school; provided
23 further, that no person shall be allowed to teach in any
24 kindergarten maintained under the provisions of this sec-
25 tion who has not completed at least a two years' course in
26 kindergarten training and received a certificate or diploma
27 from a recognized kindergarten training school approved
28 by the state superintendent of public schools.'