

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

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SENATE

NO. 68

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In Senate, February 7, 1919.

Referred to Committee on Education and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

P. F. CRANE, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Ricker of Hancock.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT to amend section sixty-six of chapter sixteen of the revised statutes relating to the attendance of children at school.

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

Section sixty-six of chapter sixteen of the revised statutes  
2 is hereby amended by striking out after the word "time"  
3 in the tenth line thereof the words "in an approved private  
4 school or in any other manner approved by the superin-  
5 tending school committee" and substituting therefor the  
6 words "in a private school in which the course of study and  
7 methods of instruction have been approved by the state su-  
8 perintendent of public schools, or in any other manner ar-

9 ranged for by the superintending school committee with the  
10 approval of the state superintendent of public schools', so  
11 that said section when amended shall read as follows :

'Sect. 66. Every child between the seventh and fifteenth  
2 anniversaries of his birth and every child between the fif-  
3 teenth and seventeenth anniversaries who cannot read at  
4 sight and write legibly simple sentences in the English lan-  
5 guage, shall attend some public day school during the time  
6 such school is in session, and an absence therefrom of one-  
7 half day or more shall be deemed a violation of this re-  
8 quirement; provided, that necessary absence may be ex-  
9 cused, by the superintending school committee or superin-  
10 tendent of schools or teachers acting by the direction of  
11 either; provided, also, that such attendance shall not be re-  
12 quired if the child obtained equivalent instruction, for a like  
13 period of time, in a private school in which the course of  
14 study and methods of instruction have been approved by  
15 the state superintendent of public schools, or in any other  
16 manner arranged for by the superintending school commit-  
17 tee with the approval of the state superintendent of public  
18 schools; provided, further, that children shall not be credit-  
19 ed with attendance at a private school until a certificate  
20 showing their names, residence and attendance at such  
21 school signed by the person or persons having such school  
22 in charge, shall be filed with the school officials of the town  
23 in which said children reside; and provided, further, that  
24 the superintending school committee may exclude from the

25 public schools any child whose physical or mental condi-  
26 tion makes it inexpedient for him to attend. All persons  
27 having children under their control shall cause them to at-  
28 tend school as provided in this section, and for every neg-  
29 lect of such duty shall be punished by a fine not exceed-  
30 ing twenty-five dollars or shall be imprisoned not exceed-  
31 ing thirty days.'