

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE**

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**HOUSE**

**NO. 212**

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House of Representatives, March 2, 1921.

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

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND  
NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-ONE**

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AN ACT to Require the Teaching of American History and  
Civil Government in the Public and Private Schools.

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

Paragraph seven of section one hundred and twenty-two  
2 of chapter sixteen of the revised statutes as amended by  
3 chapter one hundred and forty-six of the acts of nineteen  
4 hundred and nineteen, is hereby further amended by adding  
5 after the words "the English language" in the fourteenth  
6 line thereof the words 'and provided further that American  
7 history and civil government shall be taught in all common  
8 schools of elementary and high school grades, both public  
9 and private, and that American history and civil govern-  
10 ment shall be required for graduation from all grammar  
11 schools, both public and private,' so that said section shall  
12 read as follows:

'VII. Basic language in all public and private schools to  
2 be English: state superintendent to prescribe course of study  
3 in private schools approved for attendance or tuition. To  
4 prescribe the studies to be taught in the public schools and  
5 in private schools approved for attendance and tuition pur-  
6 poses, reserving to superintending school committees, trust-  
7 tees or other officers in charge of such public or private  
8 schools the right to prescribe additional studies, and the  
9 course of study prescribed by the state superintendent of  
10 public schools shall be followed in all public schools and  
11 in all private schools approved by the state superintendent  
12 for attendance or tuition purposes; provided, however, that  
13 upon the approval by the state superintendent of any course  
14 arranged by the superintending school committee of any  
15 town, or by the trustees or other officers of any private  
16 school, said course shall be the authorized course for said  
17 town or private school; provided, further, that the basic  
18 language of instruction in the common school branches in  
19 all schools, public and private, shall be the English language;  
20 and provided, further, that American history and civil gov-  
21 ernment shall be taught in all common schools of elementary  
22 and high school grades, both public and private, and that  
23 American history and civil government shall be required  
24 for graduation from all grammar schools, both public and  
25 private. Nothing in this section shall be construed to pro-  
26 hibit the teaching in elementary schools of any language as  
27 such.'