

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE

SENATE

NO. 166

In Senate, March 25, 1921.

Reported by Mr. Allen from Committee on Education and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

L. ERNEST THORNTON, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend Section Two, Chapter Sixteen of the Revised Statutes to Provide for the Improvement of Conveyance of Pupils to Common Schools.

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

Section two of chapter sixteen of the revised statutes is
2 hereby amended by inserting after the word "necessary" in
3 the twenty-fifth line thereof the following: 'In all cases,
4 conveyance so provided shall conserve the comfort, safety
5 and welfare of the children conveyed and shall be in charge
6 of a responsible driver who shall have control over the con-
7 duct of the children conveyed' so that this section when
8 amended shall read as follows:

Sect. 2. The location of any school legally established
2 prior to the seventeenth day of March, eighteen hundred
3 and ninety-three continues unchanged, notwithstanding the
4 district is abolished; but any town at its annual meeting, or
5 at a meeting called for the purpose, may determine the num-
6 ber and location of its schools, and may discontinue them
7 or change their location; but such discontinuance or change
8 of location shall be made only on the written recommenda-
9 tion of the superintending school committee, and on condi-
10 tions proper to preserve the just rights and privileges of the
11 inhabitants for whose benefit such schools were established;
12 provided, however, that in case any school shall hereafter
13 have too few scholars for its profitable maintenance, the
14 superintending school committee may suspend the operation
15 of such school for not more than one year unless otherwise
16 instructed by the town, but any public school failing to
17 maintain an average attendance for any school year, of at
18 least eight pupils, shall be and hereby is suspended, unless
19 the town in which said school is located shall by vote, at
20 the annual meeting, or at a meeting called for that purpose,
21 after the said committee shall have made a written recom-
22 mendation to that effect, instruct its superintending school
23 committee to maintain said school. The superintendent of
24 schools in each town shall procure the conveyance of all
25 common school pupils residing in his town, a part or the
26 whole of the distance, to and from the nearest suitable
27 school, for the number of weeks for which schools are

28 maintained in each year, when such pupils reside at such a
29 distance from the said school as in the judgment of the
30 superintending school committee shall render such convey-
31 ance necessary. In all cases, conveyance so provided shall
32 conserve the comfort, safety and welfare of the children
33 conveyed and shall be in charge of a responsible driver who
34 shall have control over the conduct of the children conveyed.
35 Provided, however, that the superintending school commit-
36 tee may authorize the superintendent of schools to pay the
37 board of any pupil or pupils at a suitable place near any
38 established school instead of providing conveyance for said
39 pupil or pupils, when in their judgment it may be done at
40 an equal or less expense than by conveyance.'