

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

H. P. No. 706

H. D. No. 151

House of Representatives, Feb. 17, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for Concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Hale of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Relating to the Property of Extinct or Disbanded
Congregational Churches, Parishes or Societies.

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

Section 1. Chapter four hundred forty-seven of the private and special laws of the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three is hereby amended by striking out the whole of Section 1 of said chapter and inserting in place thereof the following, so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 1. The Congregational Conference and Missionary Society of Maine, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Maine, shall be and become

4 vested with the property and effects of any extinct or dis-
5 banded Congregational Church, parish or society within this
6 state in trust to apply the same to paying the debts, if any,
7 of such extinct or disbanded church, parish or society, and
8 to use any surplus for the purposes and objects of said The
9 Congregational Conference and Missionary Society of
10 Maine, and may sell and convert such property and effects
11 into money; provided, however, that in the sale and dis-
12 position of property so devolving on said The Congrega-
13 tional Conference and Missionary Society of Maine said
14 Society shall be deemed in respect to the right and power
15 of possession, control, disposal and conveyance, the legal
16 successor of such extinct or disbanded Congregational
17 church, parish or society; and in the case of sale of such
18 property said The Congregational Conference and Mission-
19 ary Society of Maine may apply to the Supreme Judicial
20 Court or to the Probate Court within the county where such
21 property is situated for a judicial order authorizing the sale
22 thereof, and such order shall be authority for making such
23 sale.'

Sect. 2. Said chapter is further amended by striking out
2 the whole of Sect. 2 of said chapter, and inserting in place
3 thereof the following, so that said section as amended shall
4 read as follows:

'Sect. 2. The Congregational Conference and Missionary
2 Society of Maine, in order to determine when any such
3 Congregational church, parish or society is extinct or dis-

4 banded, is hereby empowered to call a council of Congre-
5 gational churches in the vicinage, of not less than five
6 churches, and the finding of such council, together with the
7 decree of the court, shall be its authority for procedure.
8 Before the sale of any property by said The Congregational
9 Conference and Missionary Society of Maine under order
10 of court, notice of said sale shall be published at least two
11 weeks before the date of sale in a paper of wide circulation
12 in the vicinity of the church formerly used by such extinct
13 or disbanded church, parish or society.'