

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

H. P. No. 1171

H. D. No. 413

House of Representatives, March 17, 1925.

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

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

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

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

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

*R. S., c. 16, section 122; 1919, c. 146; 1921, c. 25; relating
2 to authority of state commissioner of education to prescribe
3 courses of study in common schools and requiring that Eng-
4 lish shall be the basic language taught, amended.*

Paragraph seven of chapter twenty-five of the public laws
2 of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby amended by
3 inserting after the words "civil government" in line eighteen
4 thereof the words, 'including the constitution of the United
5 States,' so that the paragraph as amended shall read as fol-
6 lows:

*'VII. American history and civil government to be taught
2 in all common schools, both public and private, of elemen-*

3 *tary and high school grades; American history and civil gov-*
4 *ernment required for graduation from all grammar schools,*
5 *private and public.* To prescribe the studies to be taught in
6 the public schools and in private schools approved for at-
7 tendance and tuition purposes, reserving to superintending
8 school committees, trustees or other officers in charge of
9 such public or private schools the right to prescribe addi-
10 tional studies, and the course of study prescribed by the
11 state superintendent of public schools shall be followed in
12 all public schools and in all private schools approved by
13 the state superintendent for attendance or tuition purposes;
14 provided, however, that upon the approval by the state su-
15 perintendent of any course arranged by the superintending
16 school committee of any town, or by the trustees or other
17 officers of any private school, said course shall be the au-
18 thorized course for said town or private school; provided,
19 further, that the basic language of instruction in the com-
20 mon school branches in all schools, public and private, shall
21 be the English language; and provided, further, that Amer-
22 ican history and civil government, including the constitu-
23 tion of the United States, shall be taught in all common
24 schools of elementary and high school grades, both public
25 and private, and that American history and civil govern-
26 ment shall be required for graduation from all grammar
27 schools, both public and private. Nothing in this section
28 shall be construed to prohibit the teaching in elementary
29 schools of any language as such.'