

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

S. P. 135

S. D. 287

In Senate, April 1, 1925.

Reported by Senator Barwise from Committee on Library,
and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Barwise of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend the Law Relating to Municipal Aid for
Public Libraries.

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

Section 1. Section twenty-eight of chapter two hundred
2 and ten of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-
3 one is hereby amended by striking out the words "appro-
4 priate, for the foundation and commencement of such
5 library, a sum not exceeding ten dollars, and for its main-
6 tenance and increase annually, a sum not exceeding two
7 dollars for each of its ratable polls in the year next pre-
8 ceding," and inserting in place thereof, the following: 'levy
9 and assess a tax and make appropriation therefrom for the
10 foundation and commencement of such library and for its
11 maintenance and increase annually'; and by inserting be-

12 tween the words “the” and “general” the word ‘same,’ so
13 that said section as amended shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 28. Any town may establish a free public library
2 therein, for the use of its inhabitants, and provide suitable
3 rooms therefor, under such regulation for its government
4 as the inhabitants from time to time prescribe; and may
5 levy and assess a tax and make appropriation therefrom
6 for the foundation and commencement of such library and
7 for its maintenance and increase annually. Any town in
8 which there is a public library may establish and maintain
9 under the same general management and control, such
10 branches of the same as the convenience and wants of its
11 citizens seem to demand.’

Sect. 2. Section twenty-nine of chapter two hundred and
2 ten of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one
3 is hereby amended by striking out the words “appropriate
4 therefrom for its maintenance and increase annually a sum
5 not exceeding one dollar for each ratable poll within the
6 limits of such village corporation in the year next pre-
7 ceding” and inserting in place thereof, the following: ‘make
8 appropriation therefrom for its maintenance and increase
9 annually,’ so that said section as amended shall read as
10 follows:

‘Sect. 29. Any village corporation located in a town where
2 no free library exists, may establish a library within its
3 limits for the free use of all its inhabitants and may levy
4 and assess a corporate tax and make appropriation there-

5 from for its maintenance and increase annually. Village
6 libraries established under this section shall be subject to
7 all the duties and entitled to all the privileges prescribed
8 by the laws relating to free public libraries in towns.'

Sect. 3. Section thirty of chapter two hundred and ten
2 of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is
3 hereby amended by striking out the words "not exceeding
4 the legal limit established for maintaining free libraries";
5 and by striking out the words "seventy-eight" and insert-
6 ing in place thereof the words 'thirty-two,' so that said
7 section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 30. Any town may raise and appropriate annually
2 a sum of money for the purpose of securing to its inhab-
3 itants the free use of a library located in an adjoining town,
4 and shall be entitled to receive from the treasurer of state
5 a sum not less than seven per cent nor more than ten per
6 cent of the amount so raised, appropriated and expended
7 yearly, provided that no town shall receive annually more
8 than five hundred dollars, to be paid on the certificate of
9 its municipal officers returned as provided in section thirty-
10 two.'

Sect. 4. Section thirty-one of chapter two hundred and
2 ten of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one
3 is hereby amended by striking out the word "appropriate"
4 and inserting in place thereof the words 'make appropri-
5 ation' and by striking out the words "a sum not exceeding
6 the legal limit established for maintaining free libraries,"
7 so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 31. Two or more adjacent towns may unite in
2 establishing and maintaining a free public library with
3 branches thereof in each town, for the free use of all the
4 inhabitants of said towns, and may each raise and make
5 appropriation for that purpose annually, and such towns
6 shall be subject to all duties and entitled to all the benefits
7 prescribed by the laws relating to free libraries.’

Sect. 5. Section thirty-three of chapter two hundred and
2 ten of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one
3 is hereby amended by striking out the words “appropriate
4 a sum not exceeding one dollar for each of its ratable polls
5 in the year next preceding” and inserting in place thereof
6 the words ‘levy and assess a tax and make appropriation
7 therefrom annually,’ so that said section as amended shall
8 read as follows:

‘Sect. 33. Any town or city, in which there is a library
2 owned or controlled by a corporation or association or by
3 trustees may levy and assess a tax and make appropriation
4 therefrom annually to procure from such library the free
5 use of its books for all the inhabitants of the town or city,
6 under such restrictions and regulations as shall insure the
7 safety and good usage of the books; and such library shall
8 then be considered a free public library within the mean-
9 ing of this chapter, and said town or city shall be entitled
10 to the benefits of the preceding section, provided that any
11 books and documents purchased with said stipend, and all
12 books and documents donated by the state, shall be and
13 remain the property of said municipality.’