

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY - THIRD LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 15

H. P. 48 House of Representatives, Jan. 20, 1927.

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

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Cole of South Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Relating to the State Board of Children's Guardians.

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

Chapter sixty-four, section fifty-five, revised statutes, as
2 amended by chapter one hundred seventy-one, nineteen hun-
3 dred nineteen, is hereby amended by striking out the words
4 "one-half, but not exceeding an average of two dollars per
5 week," and inserting in lieu thereof the word 'two-thirds,'
6 so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows :

'Whenever the court deems it suitable and conducive to
2 the public welfare that any such child be placed **under** the
3 control of an individual, the court shall first take a bond
4 from such person running to the state in such sum and with
5 such sureties as the court approves, conditioned that such

6 person shall humanely treat and properly support, clothe
7 and educate the child, and in case of non-performance of
8 the conditions of said bond a suit may be commenced there-
9 on and the sum so recovered shall be paid into the treasury
10 of the state for the joint benefit of the state and town of
11 settlement, if any, of said child in proportion to the amount
12 of expenses incurred by the state and said town because
13 of the failure of said person so to treat, support, clothe and
14 educate said child. The state board shall provide for the
15 maintenance and education in or by duly incorporated chil-
16 dren's institutions and child welfare organizations, where
17 such are available, and otherwise direct in family homes,
18 of any children committed to its custody under the pro-
19 visions of the preceding sections. Bills itemizing the ex-
20 pense of maintenance and education of children committed
21 under the provisions of this chapter, when approved by the
22 state board and audited by the state auditor, shall be paid
23 by the treasurer of the state, who shall recover from the
24 town of settlement, if any, of any such child, two-thirds
25 of any such payments on account of said child. At the
26 request of the parents or next friend of any dependent child
27 under sixteen years of age who is without parent or grand-
28 parent of sufficient ability, or without other relatives able
29 and willing to provide for its care, said request being ap-
30 proved by the municipal board of the city or town where
31 the child is domiciled or by any duly incorporated children's
32 institution or organization, the state board may make simi-

33 lar provision, without intervention of court, for the care
34 of such child. No such child, nor the parents or grand-
35 parents of such child who are unable to provide for its care,
36 shall be deemed paupers by reason of any care furnished
37 to the child under the provisions of this act.'