

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 133

H. P. 516

House of Representatives, Feb. 11, 1927.

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

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Holman of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Permitting Children to Be Excused from the Public
Schools to Receive Religious Instruction.

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

Management of Schools; Election and Discharge of Super-
2 intendent. R. S. c. 15, Sec. 34. 1911, c. 173. 1913, c. 78.
3 1915, c. 129. 1916, c. 16. Sec. 37, amended. Section
4 thirty-seven of chapter sixteen of the revised statutes of
5 nineteen hundred and sixteen is hereby amended by striking
6 out after the word "committee" in the fifth line thereof
7 the rest of the section and inserting the following: "The
8 superintending school committee shall have the power to
9 make such rules and regulations governing the schools of

10 the town as they may deem prudent and to the best inter-
11 ests thereof, provided they do not conflict with the pro-
12 visions of the statutes. They may upon the request of a
13 parent or guardian excuse his or her children for a period
14 not to exceed ninety minutes in any week to permit such
15 child or children to attend week day schools giving religious
16 instruction. The superintending school committee in such
17 instances shall direct the superintendent of schools with his
18 teachers to so adjust the school program and course of
19 study as to facilitate the provisions of this act in fairness
20 to the child or children so excused,' so that said section
21 shall read as follows:

'Sect. 37. Management of schools; election and discharge
2 of superintendent. R. S. c. 15, Sec. 34. 1911, c. 173. 1913,
3 c. 78. 1915, c. 129. 1916, c. 16. The management of the
4 schools and the custody and care, including repairs and in-
5 surance on school buildings, of all school property in every
6 town, shall devolve upon the superintending school com-
7 mittee which shall annually, and as often as a vacancy
8 shall occur, elect a superintendent of schools who shall not
9 be a member of the committee. The superintending school
10 committee shall have the power to make such rules and
11 regulations governing the schools of the town as they may
12 deem prudent and to the best interests thereof, provided
13 they do not conflict with the provisions of the statutes.
14 They may upon the request of a parent or guardian excuse
15 his or her children for a period not to exceed ninety min-

16 utes in any week to permit such child or children to attend
17 week day schools giving religious instruction. The super-
18 intending school committee in such instances shall direct
19 the superintendent of schools with his teachers to so adjust
20 the school program and course of study as to facilitate the
21 provisions of this act in fairness to the child or children
22 so excused.'