

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY - THIRD LEGISLATURE

Senate Document

No. 227

S. P. 462

In Senate, March 10, 1927.

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

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Oakes of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act Relating to the Protection of Children.

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

That section fifty-four of chapter one hundred seventy-
2 one of the public laws of nineteen hundred nineteen be
3 amended by inserting after the word "committed" in the
4 tenth line of said section, the words 'or the person to whom
5 custody has been given,' so that said section as amended
6 shall read as follows:

'Sect. 54. Orders and decrees provided for in the pre-
2 ceding sections shall have the same effect to divest the
3 parent or parents of all legal rights in respect to said child
4 as specified in section thirty-eight of chapter seventy-two,
5 revised statutes, but shall not relieve the parent or parents

6 of liability for the support of such child, or from the penal-
7 ties for failure to support which are provided in sections
8 thirty-eight, thirty-nine, forty and forty-one of chapter one
9 hundred and twenty of the revised statutes. Such orders
10 shall not extend beyond the time when the child arrives at
11 the age of twenty-one years. The children's institution or
12 organization or state board to which said child is commit-
13 ted, or the person to whom custody has been given shall
14 have full custody and control over said child thereafter for
15 said time, and shall have authority to give the consent re-
16 quired in section thirty-six of said chapter seventy-two.
17 An appeal may be taken from the order or decree of any
18 probate, municipal or police court determining the custody
19 of the child under the provisions of this act to the next
20 term of the supreme judicial court to be holden within the
21 county not earlier than fourteen days after the signing of
22 said order or decree, provided that in counties having a
23 superior court said appeal from any municipal or police
24 court shall lie solely to said superior court next to be holden
25 not earlier than fourteen days after the signing of said
26 order or decree. The proceedings under such appeal from
27 a probate court shall follow the form prescribed for appeal
28 from probate courts and under such appeal from a munici-
29 pal or police court shall follow the provisions of any spe-
30 cial charter of the municipal or police court concerned, but
31 pending action upon any such appeal the court may order
32 the custody of the child to be retained by said suitable per-

33 son, children's institution or child welfare organization or
34 state board. Upon application by the state board, by a
35 municipal board, by the parents or parent of any such child,
36 or by the children's institution or child welfare organization
37 or suitable person to which such child may have been com-
38 mitted to the court making the commitment, said court shall
39 examine into the conditions and welfare of the said child,
40 and may at any time make such further order in relation
41 to his care, custody, support and education as justice may
42 demand.'