

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# EIGHTY - THIRD LEGISLATURE

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**Senate Document**

**No. 233**

S. P. 409

In Senate, Mar. 10, 1927.

Taken from the table on motion by Mr. Smith of Somerset and on further motion by Mr. Speirs referred to Committee on Education; 500 copies ordered printed; sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Speirs of Cumberland.

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## STATE OF MAINE

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

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AN ACT Relating to Children Between the Ages of Fifteen  
and Sixteen Who Have Not Completed the Sixth Grade of  
the Elementary Schools Must Attend School.

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

Section sixty-six of chapter five of the public laws of nine-  
2 teen hundred and twenty-one is hereby amended by inserting  
3 after the word "instruction" in line thirteen the words 'also  
4 the qualifications of teachers and text-books used,' so that  
5 the section, when amended, shall read as follows:

'Sect. 2. Every child between the seventh and fifteenth  
2 anniversaries of his birth and every child between the fif-

3 tenth and seventeenth anniversaries who cannot read at  
4 sight and write legibly simple sentences in the English lan-  
5 guage and every child between the fifteenth and sixteenth  
6 anniversaries who has not completed the sixth grade of the  
7 elementary school, shall attend some public day school dur-  
8 ing the time school is in session, and an absence therefrom  
9 of one-half day or more shall be deemed a violation of this  
10 requirement; provided, that necessary absence may be ex-  
11 cused by the superintending school committee or superin-  
12 tendent of schools or teachers acting by the direction of  
13 either; provided, also, that such attendance shall not be  
14 required if the child obtained equivalent instruction, for a  
15 like period of time, in a private school in which the course  
16 of study and methods of instruction, also the qualifications  
17 of teachers and text-books used, have been approved by  
18 the state superintendent of public schools, or in any other  
19 manner arranged for by the superintending school commit-  
20 tee with the approval of the state superintendent of public  
21 schools; provided, further, that children shall not be credited  
22 with attendance at a private school until a certificate show-  
23 ing their names, residence and attendance at such school  
24 signed by the person or persons having such school in  
25 charge, shall be filed with the school officials of the town  
26 in which said children reside; and provided, further, that  
27 the superintending school committee may exclude from the  
28 public schools any child whose physical or mental condition  
29 makes it inexpedient for him to attend. All persons having

30 children under their control shall cause them to attend school  
31 as provided in this section, and for every neglect of such  
32 duty shall be punished by a fine not exceeding twenty-five  
33 dollars or shall be imprisoned not exceeding thirty days.'