

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Senate Document

No. 381

S. P. 201

In Senate, Apr. 11, 1927.

Reported by Mr. Perkins from Committee on State School for Boys, State School for Girls, State Reformatories, and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

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

RESOLVE, in Favor of the State Reformatory for Women for
the Erection of a Detention Building.

Resolved: That there be, and hereby is, appropriated, to be
2 paid to the State Reformatory for Women, at Skowhegan,
3 for the erection of a building to be used for detention pur-
4 poses of the inmates, the sum of twenty thousand dollars.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

A building where can be confined, and isolated from the larger group, those who persistently refuse to comply with the regulations of the Reformatory, and whose presence therein is seriously detrimental to its well being, has become an outstanding need of the Reformatory. Every state which deals with delinquent women meets this type, and their reaction on the whole institution becomes most disturbing, unless some place is provided where they can be cared for.

When the institution was established, provision was made for these delinquents at the State Prison where they were temporarily transferred and subsequently by requisition of the trustees allowed to return when deemed advisable. They were given no prison record, but for lack of suitable equipment at the Reformatory, were confined in the prison buildings.

This law has since been repealed, leaving the Reformatory with a few cells in one end of the basement of Stevens House, where isolation is impossible and where the whole building suffers from any unusual disturbance. It is the general belief of those interested, that the Reformatory should have the necessary equipment and provision to properly care for any woman whom the courts see fit to commit to its supervision and it is to carry out this idea and as well, to better care for and protect those of a less violent type, who are by far the larger group, that the building is being requested of this legislature.