

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 506

S. P. 345

In Senate, Feb. 8, 1933.

Referred to Committee on State School for Boys, State School for Girls, and State Reformatories and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Weeks of Somerset.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE

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AN ACT Relating to Commitment to and Length of Sentence at the Reformatory for Women.

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

**R. S. c. 152, § 61, amended.** Section 61 of chapter 152 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows :

**'Sec. 61. Commitment; length of sentence; woman attendant in serving mittimus.** When a woman over the age of sixteen years, and under the age of forty years is convicted before any court or trial justice having jurisdiction of the offense, of an offense punishable by imprisonment in the state prison, or in the county jail, or in any house of correction, such court or justice may order her commitment to the reformatory for women, or sentence her to the punishment provided by law for the same offense. When a woman is sentenced to the reformatory for women the court or trial justice imposing the sentence shall not ~~prescribe the limit thereof~~ **fix the term of such commitment** unless it be for a term of more than ~~five~~ **three** years; ~~but no woman committed to the reformatory upon a sentence within the prescribed limit, as aforesaid, shall be held therein for more than five years if sentenced for a felony, nor for more than three years if sentenced for a misdemeanor.~~ **If the sentence imposed upon any**

~~woman be for more than five years, she shall be so held for such longer term.~~ and the duration of such commitment, including the time spent on parole, shall not exceed three years, except where the maximum term specified by law for the crime for which the offender was sentenced shall exceed that period, in which event such maximum term shall be the limit of detention under the provision of this act, and in such cases it shall be the duty of the trial court to specify the maximum term for which the offender may be held under such commitment. Upon commitment of such woman, if the officer to whom the mittimus or order of commitment is addressed is not a woman, the judge or trial justice shall in all cases when feasible designate a woman to be an attendant to accompany her to said reformatory.

The expenses of said woman shall be paid by the county in which the commitment is made.