

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY - SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 356

H. P. 1131

House of Representatives, February 5, 1935.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary, sent up for concurrence and 500 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Chase of Baring.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
THIRTY-FIVE

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**AN ACT Relating to the Pauperizing of Unemployed Wage Earners.**

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

**Wage earners not to be pauperized.** Section 8 of chapter 33 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 8. Soldiers, sailors, and marines in the war of 1861, the war with Spain, and World War, who received honorable discharge, and certain unemployed wage earners, not to be considered paupers; families to be supported in place other than poorhouse; penalty.** No soldier, sailor, or marine who served in the army, navy, or marine corps of the United States, in the war of 1861, in the war with Spain, or in the World War, and who has received an honorable discharge from said service, **and no wage earner who is usually employed, but who is unemployed temporarily without his fault and because of industrial conditions over which he has no control,** and who has or may become dependent upon any town, shall be considered a pauper, or be subject to disfranchisement for that cause; but the time during which said soldier, sailor, ~~or~~ marine, **or wage earner** is so dependent, shall not be included in the period of residence necessary to change his settlement; and overseers of the poor shall not have authority to remove to, or support in, the poorhouse any such dependent soldier, sailor, ~~or~~ marine, **or wage earner,** or his family. The word "family" here used shall be held to include the

soldier, sailor, ~~or~~ marine, **or wage earner**, his wife, his unmarried minor children living with him and dependent upon him for support, and such other unmarried children of his dependent upon him for support who by reason of mental incapacity or physical disability are unable to provide for themselves; but the town of his settlement shall support them at his own home in the town of his settlement or residence, or in such suitable place other than the poorhouse as the overseers of the town of his settlement may deem right and proper. In case of violation of this section the overseers of the poor shall be subject to a fine of \$25; and for every day they allow them to remain in such poorhouse, after reasonable notice, they shall be subject to a further fine of \$5 a day, to be recovered by complaint or indictment. This section shall not be so construed as to deprive overseers of the poor of any right to remove and support such dependent soldier, sailor, ~~or~~ marine, **or wage earner** and his family in the town of his settlement as herein provided.'