

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T I E T H                      L E G I S L A T U R E

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 152**

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S. P. 127

In Senate, January 23, 1941.

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

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Chase of Washington.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-ONE

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**AN ACT to Provide for the Surrender by Topsfield Plantation of Its  
Organization.**

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**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, the tax rate of Topsfield Plantation has increased to the point where it is almost confiscatory, and

Whereas, the plantation having borrowed to the full extent of its debt limit is unable to obtain further credit or raise funds by which to conduct its governmental activities, and

Whereas, the plantation is not able to function under its present organization, and

Whereas, immediate steps should be taken to take care of the present financial emergency, and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of section 16 of Article XXXI of the constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

**Sec. 1. Organization of Topsfield Plantation may be surrendered.** The organization of Topsfield Plantation in the county of Washington as here-

tofore adopted is hereby surrendered; provided, however, that the corporate existence, powers, duties and liabilities of said plantation shall survive for the purpose of prosecuting and defending all pending suits and causes of suits to which said plantation is, or may be, a party and all needful process growing out of the same, including provisions for the payment of all or any judgments or debts which may be rendered against such plantation or exist in favor of any creditor.

**Sec. 2. School fund and unexpended funds.** The school fund deposited to the credit of said plantation and all funds unexpended for school purposes at the time when this act becomes effective out of amounts raised by said plantation for school purposes or out of amounts paid by the state for school purposes shall be paid by the treasurer of said plantation or such other person in whose custody such funds may be, to the treasurer of state. Such amounts, so received, shall be added to the unorganized township funds as provided in section 23 of chapter 11 of the revised statutes.

**Sec. 3. Ratification.** This act shall take effect on approval by the governor for the purpose of permitting its acceptance or rejection by the legal voters of Topsfield Plantation at any annual or special plantation meeting legally called to consider the acceptance of this act; an appropriate article being inserted in the call for said meeting.

If a majority of the qualified voters of the plantation, present and voting, vote in favor of the acceptance of this act, it shall become operative on April 1, 1941. A certificate of such vote shall be filed by the plantation clerk with the secretary of state.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.