

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - F I R S T L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 526

S. P. 323

In Senate, February 11, 1943.

Referred to Committee on Military Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Harvey of York.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Relief of Veterans of All Wars, and Their Dependents.

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

Sec. 1. P. L., 1933, c. 1, § 235, amended. Section 235 of chapter 1 of the public laws of 1933, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 235. Persons entitled to relief defined. The wife, children under the age of 16 years, the infirm and dependent father or mother, incapable of self maintenance, ~~of any soldier, sailor or marine~~ or any male or female **veteran** of the armed forces of the United States on active duty during the World War I before the 11th day of November, 1918, killed in battle or dead, or who is disabled, and in necessitous circumstances, and who was not dishonorably discharged, and who enlisted or was drafted while residing in the state of Maine, shall be eligible for relief from the state, provided that the dependent is resident in the state of Maine. **And the wife, children under the age of 16 years, the infirm and dependent father or mother, incapable of self maintenance, of any male or female veteran of the armed forces of the United States on active duty during World War II killed in battle or dead, or who is disabled, and in necessitous circumstances, and who was not dishonorably discharged, and who enlisted or was drafted while residing in the state of Maine, shall be eligible for such relief from**

the state, provided the dependent is resident of the state of Maine. Any person entitled to receive relief hereunder shall not forfeit the same by reason of temporary absence from the state.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 33, § 8, amended. 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 Wars I and II, who received honorable discharge, 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 no male or female veteran who served in **World Wars I and II**, and who has received an honorable discharge from said service, 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 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 his family. The word "family" here used shall be held to include the soldier, sailor, or marine, 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. **The words "soldier, sailor or marine" here used shall be held to include male and female veterans.** 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, and his family in the town of his settlement as herein provided.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 5, § 79, amended. The 1st sentence of section 79 of chapter 5 of the revised statutes, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows :

'Cities and towns may raise money to procure the writing and publication

of their histories, to celebrate any centennial or other anniversary of the settlement or incorporation of such city or town, and to publish the proceedings of any such celebration; to defray the expenses of the observance of memorial day, armistice day, or any other day set apart for patriotic commemoration, firemen's memorial Sunday, and of old home week; to hire a public nurse; to hire a dental hygienist; to subsidize a physician to induce him or her to settle in said town; ~~to grant additional aid to the blind in accordance with section nineteen of chapter one hundred fifty eight;~~ and a sum not exceeding \$5,000 in any one town for erecting a suitable monument or memorial in memory of the soldiers and sailors who sacrificed their lives in defence of their country in the war of 1861, or in the ~~world war~~ **World Wars I and II**, and a reasonable sum to secure, grade, and care for a lot appropriate for such a monument or memorial.'

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 13, § 6, ¶ IX, amended. Paragraph IX of section 6 of chapter 13 of the revised statutes, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'IX. The polls and the estates of persons who by reason of age, infirmity or poverty, are in the judgment of the assessors unable to contribute toward the public charges; the polls of all soldiers and sailors who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of 1861-1865, and were honorably discharged from such service; the polls of all soldiers, sailors and marines who receive state pension; the polls of all soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the Indian wars; the polls of all soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the war with Spain; the polls of all soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the Philippine Insurrection; the polls of all disabled veterans of the World Wars, namely, soldiers, sailors and marines who are receiving pension or compensation or vocational training from the United States government on account of disability incurred in or aggravated by service in ~~the world war~~ **World Wars I and II**; and the estates, ~~up~~ to the value of \$3,500 of all ~~soldiers, sailors and marines, or the widows of soldiers, sailors or marines who served in the war of 1861-1865, the Indian wars, the war with Spain, in the Philippine Insurrection or the world war, and were honorably discharged, who shall have reached the age of 62 years, or are receiving a pension or compensation from the pension bureau or United States Veterans' Bureau~~ male or female veterans, or the widows of veterans who have served in the armed forces of the United States, and who were honorably discharged, who shall have reached the age of 62 years, or are receiving a pension or compensation from the United States Veterans Administration for total disability, and of all persons determined to be blind within the

definition provided by chapter 210 of the public laws of 1937 and are receiving aid under the provisions of said chapter; and in case any person entitled to such exemption has property taxable in more than one city or town of the state, such proportion of such total exemption shall be made in each city or town, as the value of the property taxable in such city or town bears to the value of the whole of the property of such person taxable in the state; provided, however, that no exemption shall be allowed hereunder in favor of any person who is not a legal resident of the state of Maine; and provided further, that any ~~soldier, sailor or marine~~ **male or female veteran**, or blind person, or widow of such ~~soldier, sailor or marine~~ **male or female veteran**, or blind person, who desires to pay said tax may, on or before the 1st day of April in each year, notify in writing the assessors of the city, town or plantation in which he or she resides of his or her desire to pay said tax, whereupon the said assessors shall assess said tax against said ~~soldier, sailor, or marine~~ **male or female veteran**, or blind person, or widow of said ~~soldier, sailor or marine~~ **male veteran**, or blind person, and said ~~soldier, sailor or marine~~ **male or female veteran**, or blind person, or widow of said ~~soldier, sailor or marine~~ **male veteran**, or blind person shall be legally holden to pay said tax; and provided further, that no property conveyed to such ~~soldier, sailor or marine~~ **male or female veteran**, or blind person, or widow of said ~~soldier, sailor or marine~~ **male veteran**, or blind person, for the purpose of obtaining exemption from taxation under this section shall be so exempt, and any attempt to obtain such exemptions by means of fraudulent conveyance shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100.'