

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

---

---

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. 540

H. P. 946

House of Representatives, February 11, 1943.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Maxwell of Bangor.

---

---

STATE OF MAINE

---

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-THREE

---

**AN ACT** Relating to the Powers of the Court in Juvenile Cases.

---

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

**P. L., 1931, c. 241, § 4, amended.** Section 4 of chapter 241 of the public laws of 1931, as amended by section 5-B of chapter 118 of the public laws of 1933, as further amended by chapter 197 of the public laws of 1937, and as further amended by chapter 245 of the public laws of 1941, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

**‘Sec. 5-B. Powers of the court in juvenile cases.** A municipal court may place children under the age of 17 years under the supervision, care and control of a probation officer or an agent of the department of health and welfare or may order the child to be placed in a suitable family home subject to the supervision of a probation officer or the department of health and welfare or may commit such child to the department of health and welfare or make such other disposition as may seem best for the interests of the child and for the protection of the community including commitment of such child to the Pownal State School upon certification of 2 physicians who are graduates of some legally organized medical college and have practiced 3 years in this state, that such child is mentally defective and that his or her mental age is 12 years or under, or to the state school for boys or

state school for girls; but no boy shall be committed to the state school for boys who is under the age of 11 years; **such child or his next friend or guardian may appeal to the superior court in the same county in the same manner as in criminal appeals, and may accept the personal recognizance of such child, next friend or guardian, and said superior court may either affirm such sentence or order of commitment or make such other disposition of the case as may be for the best interests of such child and for the peace and welfare of the community.**

Unless the offense is aggravated or the child is of a vicious or unruly disposition no court shall sentence or commit a child under the age of 17 years to jail, reformatory, or prison, or hold such child for the grand jury.'