

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - S E C O N D      L E G I S L A T U R E

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 62**

S. P. 70

In Senate, January 23, 1945.

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

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Cleaves of Cumberland.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-FIVE

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**RESOLVE, in Favor of the Maine Historical Society.**

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**Maine historical society; appropriation for. Resolved:** That there be, and hereby is, appropriated in favor of the Maine historical society the sum of \$2,500 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946; and the sum of \$2,500 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1947; the same to be paid in quarterly payments commencing on October 1, 1945.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

The Maine Historical Society among its other activities maintains a free public library in its rooms in Portland containing in the neighborhood of 30,000 volumes of historical subject matter besides an extensive collection of original manuscript material relating to the history of Maine. This library is consulted not only by members of the Society but by the public at large including many research workers from outside the state, all of whom are accorded its free use. The revenues of the Society are derived from three principal sources: Dues of its members, income from invested funds, and income derived from fees paid by summer visitors to the Wadsworth-Longfellow House which is owned by the Society. This latter source of income has until recently been by far the major factor amounting in earlier years to upwards of \$2,000 per annum. This amount diminished from year to year during the depression years and due to war conditions is now averaging only a fraction of the former amounts. The only apparent alternative to assistance from the state is the closing of the library which would mean the practical end of the activities of the Society.