

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - SECOND L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 123

H. P. 358

House of Representatives, January 25, 1945.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Elliott of East Corinth.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relating to Education of Blind Children.

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

R. S., c. 22, § 294, amended. Section 294 of chapter 22 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows :

'Sec. 294. Blind children may be sent to Perkins Institution or other qualified school; no distinction made on account of wealth or poverty; expenses paid by state. Upon the request of the parents or guardians, the department may send such blind children as it may deem fit subjects for education, for a term not exceeding 10 years, and thereafter in the discretion of the department, in the case of any pupil, to the Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School for the Blind at Watertown, Massachusetts; or other school considered by the department to be qualified to provide suitable education for the blind child. ~~provided, however, that when the authorities in charge of said Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School for the Blind shall refuse for any reason to admit such blind children to said institution then the department may send such children so refused to any institution for the blind wherever located.~~ In the exercise of the discretionary power conferred by this section, no distinction shall be made on account of the wealth or poverty of the parents or guardians of such children. No such pupil shall be withdrawn from such insti-

tution except with the consent of the proper authorities thereof or of the governor; and the sums necessary for the support and instruction of such pupils in such institution, including all traveling expenses of such pupils attending such institution, shall be paid by the state; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be held to prevent the voluntary payment of the whole or any part of such sums by the parents or guardians of such pupils.'