

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 265

H. P. 447

House of Representatives, January 29, 1947

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Sleeper of Rockland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT Relating to Fire Escapes, Exits Thereto and Illumination
Thereof.**

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

R. S., c. 85, § 46-A, additional. Chapter 85 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 46-A, to read as follows:

‘Sec. 46-A. Fire escapes for workshops, manufactory, office buildings, boarding houses, tenement houses or other buildings. If any building specified in section 46, or any workshop, manufactory, boarding house, tenement house or other building, used in whole or in part for any of the purposes herein specified, shall be more than 3 stories in height, or if more than 6 persons shall be employed above the third story in any other building, such building shall be provided with at least 1 fire escape of iron or other incombustible material on the outside of such building; and, if such building shall be more than 100 feet in length, it shall be provided with one such fire escape for each 100 feet, or fractional part thereof exceeding 25 feet, and such fire escape shall be conveniently accessible from each story of such building; and, if such building be a tenement house, the fire escapes shall be directly accessible from each apartment, without passing through any public hall, provided tenement houses equipped with one or

more elevators may erect fire escapes surrounded by incombustible material and equipped with automatic closing fire-doors, to be erected in such manner and of such material as may be approved by the insurance commissioner and/or by the authorities having supervision over the construction and maintenance of buildings for the prevention of fire in the municipality wherein such house is situated and each interior fire escape may be in lieu of a fire escape erected on the exterior of such tenement house. Any hotel or other building connected therewith, which shall be more than 2 stories in height and shall contain sleeping accommodations for more than 10 persons, shall be provided with one such fire escape for each 50 running feet, or fractional part thereof, in the perimeter of such hotel or other building. The entrance to all such fire escapes will be through self-closing standard fire doors swinging in with the exit travel, and such door will be equipped with standard fire locks. The exit from each floor shall be directly to the fire escape and shall consist of doorways, the base of which shall be level with the floor of such building and the landing of such fire escape to which it leads, each such doorway shall be not less than 3 feet wide nor 7 feet high, constructed so that the door may be quickly opened from the inside, and each such door shall be of standard fireproof construction, and such fire escapes shall be equipped with hand rails. If there shall be two or more rooms or hallways adjoining and convenient to the landing of a fire escape, each such room or hallway shall have a doorway leading to such landing. Illuminated exit signs shall be affixed over each such exit and lights of sufficient wattage to afford ample illumination the entire length of escape shall be affixed over the exterior of all fire escapes.'