

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. 777

H. P. 1187

House of Representatives, February 13, 1947.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Cole of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Fire Prevention.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 85, § 45, amended. Section 45 of chapter 85 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 45. **Doors of public buildings to open outwards.** Every building and part thereof intended temporarily or permanently for public use, designed to accommodate 50 or more persons at one time and every school house of more than 1 story in height and every school room, assembly hall and laboratory therein, shall have all doors, intended for egress, open outwards.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 84, § 46, amended. Section 46 of chapter 85 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 46. **Means of egress for buildings and structures of various uses.** Every public house where guests are lodged, and every building in which any trade, manufacture, or business is carried on, requiring the presence of workmen above the 1st story, and all rooms used for public assembly or amusement, and all tenement houses 3 stories in height where only 1 stairway or means of egress from the upper stories of the building is

provided, and all tenement houses of four or more stories in height intended to be occupied by families, boarders, or lodgers above the 3rd story, and all buildings used for school purposes, including school dormitories 2 stories or more in height. Every building and part thereof used for a lodging house, tenement or apartment house, hotel, dormitory, hospital, convalescent or nursing home, home for infants or children, or home for the aged; used for trade, manufacture or business requiring the presence of workmen, customers or the public above the 1st story; used for public assembly or amusement; or used for school purposes, shall at all times be provided with proper egresses or other means of escape from fire sufficient for the use of all persons accommodated, assembled, employed, lodged, or resident therein. These egresses and means of escape shall be kept unobstructed, in good repair, and ready for use, and the sufficiency thereof shall be determined as provided in the following section.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 85, § 47, amended. Section 47 of chapter 85 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following sentence:

'In cities, towns and villages where ordinances or by-laws have been adopted relating to the provision of features for the safety of occupants or such buildings or parts thereof as authorized by subsection IX of section 83 of chapter 80, enforcing officers, in determining the sufficiency means of egress, shall be governed by said ordinances.'