

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## NINETY - EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 696**

S. P. 271

In Senate, February 13, 1957.

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

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Silsby of Hancock.

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### STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-SEVEN

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#### AN ACT Establishing a Juvenile Probation System.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 25, §§ 258-A - 258-F, additional.** Chapter 25 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto 6 new sections to be numbered 258-A to 258-F, inclusive, to read as follows:

#### **'Juvenile Probation System.**

**Sec. 258-A. Division of Juvenile Probation.** The Commissioner is authorized to create a Division of Juvenile Probation and appoint a Director, subject to the provisions of the Personnel Law. The Director shall be qualified by personality, professional education, training and executive or supervisory experience, preferably in a juvenile court or probation agency using professional standards, to direct an effective probation service. The Director shall appoint necessary officers and clerical personnel, subject to the provisions of the Personnel Law.

**Sec. 258-B. Purpose.** The intent of sections 258-A to 258-F, inclusive, shall be to provide specialized social service for juveniles brought to the attention of the court; these services to include study, supervision and rehabilitation. The Commissioner shall insure that other services of the Department are available as needed.

**Sec. 258-C. Director of Juvenile Probation; duties.** The Director of Juvenile Probation shall have supervision of the probation officers and all other employees assigned to him. He may classify the State into districts and assign probation officers to such districts. He shall formulate methods of social investigation and supervision, the making of reports and keeping of records. He shall provide training courses for the staff. He shall be responsible for any

social investigation of any case, matter or question, involving juveniles, when requested by any court. He shall report to the Commissioner on the need for additional facilities and services.

**Sec. 258-D. Juvenile probation officers; duties.** It shall be the duty of juvenile probation officers:

- I. To study at the request of the Director or of any court any case, matter or question involving juveniles;
- II. To receive under supervision any juvenile placed on probation and to carefully explain to such juvenile all the conditions of his probation;
- III. To keep informed concerning the conduct and condition of juveniles on probation and use all effective methods to bring about improvement in their conduct and condition;
- IV. To keep detailed records of each case and make such reports to the court or to the Director as may be requested by said court or Director.

**Sec. 258-E. Investigations.** No juvenile shall be sentenced, or his case otherwise disposed of, before a report of investigation by a juvenile probation officer is presented to and considered by the court, unless otherwise ordered by the court. Whenever an investigation is required, the juvenile probation officer shall promptly inquire into the circumstances of the offense, the attitude of persons directly interested in or affected by the offense, and the record, social history and present condition of the juvenile and his parents. Where in the opinion of the court or the Department it is desirable, the investigation shall include a physical and mental examination of the juvenile. If a juvenile is committed to any institution, the Department shall send a report of its investigation to the institution at the time of commitment.

**Sec. 258-F. Department authorized to cooperate with Federal Government.** The Department is authorized to apply for federal aid under the provisions of any federal program relating to juvenile delinquency or juvenile probation which may have been or may hereinafter be enacted. The Department shall cooperate with the Federal Government in matters of mutual concern pertaining to juveniles. The Treasurer of State shall be the appropriate fiscal officer of the State to receive federal grants on account of juveniles and administration thereof. The State Controller shall authorize expenditures therefrom as approved by the Department.'

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 149, §§ 29-35, and 37, reallocated.** Sections 29 to 35, inclusive, and section 37 of chapter 149 of the Revised Statutes are hereby reallocated as section 258-G to 258-N, inclusive, of chapter 25 of the Revised Statutes.

**Sec. 3. Appropriation.** There is hereby appropriated from the general fund of the State to carry out the purposes of this act the sum of \$50,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1958 and \$80,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1959.