

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 548

S. P. 209

In Senate, February 10, 1959

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

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Weeks of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to Care of Children of Women Committed to Reformatory
for Women.

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

R. S., c. 27, § 58, amended. Section 58 of chapter 27 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 58. Care of children of women committed. If any woman committed to said reformatory is, at the time of her commitment, ~~the mother of a nursing child in her care and under 1 year of age, or is pregnant with child which shall be born after such commitment, such woman may retain such child in said reformatory until it shall be 2 years of age, when it must be removed therefrom. The department may cause such child to be placed in any asylum for children in this state and pay for the care and maintenance of such child therein until the mother of such child shall have been discharged, or the department may commit such child to the care and custody of some relative or proper person willing to assume such care, or such child may be committed to the custody of the Department of Health and Welfare under the provisions of section 249 of chapter 25, section 249.~~ If such woman, at the time of such commitment, shall be the mother of and have under her exclusive care, ~~a child more than 1 year of age~~ **any infant child**, which might be otherwise left without proper care or guardianship, the magistrate committing such woman shall cause such child to be committed to such asylum as may be provided by law for such purposes, or to the care and custody of some relative or proper person willing to assume such care or to the custody of the Department of Health and Welfare. Any com-

mitment of a child under ~~the provisions of~~ this section to the custody of any asylum for children or to any relative or other person, or to the Department of Health and Welfare shall be subject to the provisions of ~~sections 250, 251 and 252 of~~ chapter 25, **sections 250 to 252.**'