

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

## SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

## STATE OF MAINE

1897

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,  
February 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

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PUBLIC LAWS  
OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE.

1897.

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## Chapter 298.

An Act amendatory of Section nineteen of Chapter twelve of the Revised Statutes, relating to Officers of Religious Societies.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:*

Section 19,  
R. S.,  
chapter 12,  
amended.

Sect. 1. Section nineteen of chapter twelve of the revised statutes, is hereby amended by adding the suffix 'men' to the word "vestry" in the sixth line thereof, and by striking out the words "such corporations may organize as corporations, and" in the seventh and eighth lines thereof, and inserting in their stead the words: 'For the purpose of organizing any such corporation, one or more members of said corporation may call a meeting thereof by a notice posted upon the outer door of the meeting house or place of public worship of their parish or society at least seven days before the time of holding said meeting; or, if there is no such meeting house or place of public worship, by a notice posted in two public and conspicuous places in the town wherein said parish or society is located. At such meeting the corporation may organize, adopt a corporate name, and elect such officers as its by-laws shall prescribe. Said corporations shall have the powers granted to parishes by section three of this chapter, and may,' so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

Officers of  
churches,  
are corpora-  
tions for  
certain  
purposes.

—how such  
corpora-  
tion may  
organize.

'Sect. 19. The church wardens of episcopal churches, the stewards or trustees of the methodist episcopal church, and the deacons of all other protestant churches, are so far corporations as to take, in succession, all grants and gifts of real and personal estate made to their churches, or to them and their successors; and if the ministers, elders or vestrymen are joined with them in such grants or gifts, the two classes of officers shall be corporations for that purpose. For the purpose of organizing any such corporation, one or more members of said corporation may call a meeting thereof by a notice posted upon the outer door of the meeting house or place of public worship of their parish or society at least seven days before the time of holding such meeting; or, if there is no such meeting house or place of public worship, by a notice posted in two public and conspicuous places in the town wherein said parish or society is located. At such meeting the corporation may organize, adopt a corporate name, and elect such officers as its by-laws shall prescribe. Said corporations shall have the powers

granted to parishes by section three of this chapter, and may make such contracts in relation to such estate, its improvement or disposal, as they may be authorized under the rules of their church, or instructed by the church or society for which they hold such estate in trust, to make, which contracts may be enforced by or against them, as in other cases; provided, however, that no disposal of such estate shall be made, inconsistent with the terms of the grant by which it is held.'

Sect. 2. This act shall take effect when approved.

Approved March 26, 1897.

CHAP. 299

—make contracts.

—proviso.

### Chapter 299.

An Act to amend Section thirty-one of Chapter eleven, Revised Statutes of eighteen hundred and eighty-three, as amended by Chapters one hundred of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, two hundred and twelve of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and eighty-nine and two hundred and sixteen of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-three, defining course of study in Free High Schools.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:*

Section thirty-one is hereby amended by inserting after the word "studies" and before the word "especially" in the third line of said section the following words, 'which are taught in secondary schools,' and by striking out in the tenth and eleventh lines of said section the words, "on such attainments of scholarship as shall be fixed by the committees having supervision thereof," and inserting in lieu thereof the following words, 'who have such scholastic attainments as will fit them to attend such schools with profit, and the superintendent, or superintending school committee having supervision thereof shall make such examination of candidates for admission to said schools as they consider necessary;' so that said section thirty-one when amended, shall read as follows:

'Sect 31. The course of study in the free high schools, shall embrace the ordinary English academic studies which are taught in secondary schools, especially the natural sciences in their application to mechanics, manufactures and agriculture; but the ancient or modern languages and music shall not be taught therein except by direction of the superintending school committees having supervision thereof. Such schools, when established by any town or union of towns, shall be free to all

Section 31,  
chapter 11,  
R. S.,  
amended.

Course of  
study, and  
what it  
shall em-  
brace.

—excep-  
tions.