

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

SEVENTIETH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1901.

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,  
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PUBLIC LAWS  
OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE.  
1901.

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## CHAP. 202

**Chapter 202.**

An Act to legalize certain days as School Holidays.

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

Legal and school holidays.

From and after the passage of this act the following days, recognized as legal holidays by the laws of the state of Maine, shall be observed as school holidays, namely: New Year's day, January one; Washington's birthday, February twenty-two; Memorial day, May thirty; Independence day, July four; Labor holiday, first Monday in September; Christmas day, December twenty-five; Thanksgiving, Fast and Arbor days, as appointed by the governor and council. Provided, however, that Arbor day shall not be recognized as a school holiday, unless observed by teacher and pupils for the purpose for which it is designated by the governor and council. All teachers of public schools in this state may close their schools on the days mentioned in this act and draw pay the same as if their schools had been in session upon those days.

—provision regarding Arbor day.

—public schools may be closed.

Approved March 19, 1901.

**Chapter 203.**

An Act to amend Section three of Chapter two hundred and sixteen of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-three, relating to Conveyance of Scholars.

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

Section 3, chapter 216, public laws 1893, as amended by chapter 295, laws 1897 and laws of 1899 further amended.

Section three of chapter two hundred and sixteen of the public laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-three, as amended by chapter two hundred and ninety-five of the public laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, and by chapters forty-eight and seventy-four of the public laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word "town" in the twenty-first line of said section, as amended by chapter seventy-four of the public laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, the words 'a part or the whole of the distance,' so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

Act shall not change location of any school district legally established.

'Section 3. This act shall not abolish or change the location of any school legally established at the time of its passage; but any town at its annual meeting, or at a meeting called for the purpose, may determine the number and location of its schools, and may discontinue them or change their location; but such discontinuance or change of location shall be made only on

## CHAP. 204

the written recommendation of the superintending school committee, and on conditions proper to preserve the just rights and privileges of the inhabitants for whose benefit such schools were established; provided, however, that in case of any school having, as now established, or which shall hereafter have, too few scholars for its profitable maintenance, the superintending school committee may suspend the operation of such school for not more than one year unless otherwise instructed by the town, but any public school failing to maintain an average attendance for any school year, of at least eight pupils, shall be and hereby is suspended, unless the town in which said school is located shall by vote instruct its superintending school committee to maintain said school. The superintendent of schools in each town shall procure the conveyance of all public school pupils residing in his town, a part or the whole of the distance, to and from the nearest suitable school, for the number of weeks for which schools are maintained in each year, when such pupils reside at such a distance from the said school as in the judgment of the superintending school committee shall render such conveyance necessary. Provided, however, that the superintending school committee may authorize the superintendent of schools, to pay the board of any pupil or pupils at a suitable place near any established school instead of providing conveyance for said pupil or pupils, when in their judgment it may be done at an equal or less expense than by conveyance.'

—towns may determine number and location on recommendation of school committee.

—operation of schools in small districts may be suspended.

—superintendent shall procure conveyance for scholars.

—committee may furnish board instead of providing conveyance.

Approved March 19, 1901.

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## Chapter 204.

An Act to create a State Department of Agriculture.

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

Section 1. A state department of agriculture for the improvement of agriculture and the advancement of the interests of husbandry is hereby established. A commissioner of agriculture shall be elected biennially by the legislature by joint ballot of the senators and representatives in convention and he shall take and subscribe the oath provided by the constitution of this state, and shall hold his office as follows:

State department of agriculture established.

—commissioner shall be elected biennially.

—shall be sworn.

The term of office of said commissioner shall be two years and until his successor is elected and qualified, except that the commissioner first elected under this act shall enter upon his duties

Tenure.

—term shall first begin January 1, 1902.