

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1909

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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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AUGUSTA  
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PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Seventy-fourth  
Legislature

1909

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'Section 89. Any city or town, containing more than one thousand inhabitants, upon petition in writing signed by at least thirty of its taxpaying citizens, directed to the municipal officers, describing the land to be taken as hereinafter provided, and the names of the owners thereof so far as they are known, at a meeting of such town, or of the mayor, aldermen and council of such city may direct such municipal officers to take suitable lands for public parks, squares, playgrounds, or a public library building; and thereupon such officers may take such land for such purposes, but not without consent of the owner, if at the time of filing such petition, with such officers, or in the office of the clerk of such town or city, such land is occupied by a dwelling-house wherein the owner or his family reside.'

Cities and larger towns may, on petition, take land for parks, squares, public libraries and playgrounds.

Approved April 2, 1909.

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### Chapter 238.

An Act to amend Chapter fifteen of the Revised Statutes, in relation to Education.

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

Section fifty-one of chapter fifteen of the revised statutes as amended by chapter forty-eight of the public laws of nineteen hundred and five, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "chapter" in the fifteenth line thereof the following:

Section 51, chapter 15, R. S., as amended by chapter 48, public laws, 1905 further amended.

'Truant officers, when so directed in writing by the superintendent of schools or the superintending school committee of their respective towns, may visit the manufacturing, mechanical, mercantile and other business establishments in their several cities and towns during the hours in which the public schools of such city or town are in session, and ascertain whether any minors under the age of fifteen years are employed therein, and shall report any cases of such employment to the superintendent of schools or the superintending school committee of their city or town, and if employed therein contrary to the provisions of chapter forty, shall also report such illegal employment to the inspector of factories, workshops, mines and quarries. The owner, superintendent, overseer or agent of all manufacturing, mechanical, mercantile or other business establishments, upon request, shall produce for the inspection of such truant officers all certified copies of records of birth and baptism, passports and age and schooling certificates required to be kept on file in such establishments under chapter forty of the revised statutes,' so that said section when amended shall read as follows:

## CHAP. 238

Truant officers, election of.

—duties of.

—when arrest may be made.

—when directed, may visit manufacturing establishments and ascertain whether minors are employed therein and report to superintendent of schools.

—shall report to inspector of factories, etc.

—penalty.

—compensation of truant officers.

—vacancies, how filled.

'Section 51. Cities and towns shall annually elect one or more persons, to be designated truant officers, who shall inquire into all cases of neglect of the duties prescribed in section forty-nine and ascertain the reasons therefor and shall promptly report the same to the superintending school committee, and such truant officers or any of them shall, when so directed by the school committee or superintendent in writing, prosecute in the name of the city or town, any person neglecting to perform the duties prescribed in said section, by promptly entering a complaint before a magistrate; and said officers shall, when notified by any teacher that any pupil is irregular in attendance, arrest and take such pupil to school when found truant; and, further, such officers shall enforce the provisions of sections one hundred and eighteen to one hundred and twenty, inclusive, of this chapter. Truant officers, when so directed in writing by the superintendent of schools or the superintending school committee of their respective towns, may visit the manufacturing, mechanical, mercantile and other business establishments in their several cities and towns during the hours in which the public schools of such city or town are in session, and ascertain whether any minors under the age of fifteen years are employed therein, and shall report in writing any cases of such employment to the superintendent of schools or the superintending school committee of their city or town, and if employed therein contrary to the provisions of chapter forty, shall also report in writing such illegal employment to the inspector of factories, workshops, mines and quarries. The owner, superintendent, overseer or agent of all manufacturing, mechanical, mercantile or other business establishments, upon request, shall produce for the inspection of such truant officers, all certified copies of records of birth and baptism, passports and age and schooling certificates required to be kept on file in such establishments under chapter forty of the revised statutes. Every city or town neglecting to elect truant officers, and truant officers neglecting any duty required of them under the provisions of this chapter, shall forfeit not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars. The municipal officers shall fix the compensation of the truant officers elected as prescribed in this section. Superintending school committees may fill vacancies occurring during the year, and shall elect truant officers at their first meeting after the annual meeting of the town, in case the town neglects to do so, or the truant officers elect, or any of them, fail to qualify.'