

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Acts and Resolves

As Passed by the

Seventy-Eighth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1917

Including Acts and Resolves of the Special Session of the
Seventy-Seventh Legislature held in 1916.

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Seventy-Eighth Legislature

1917

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CHAP. 301

Sec. 7. R. S., c. 148, § 18, relating to the payment of benefits, amended. Section eighteen of said chapter one hundred forty-eight is hereby amended to read as follows :

'Sec. 18. Governor and council to prescribe regulations; shall determine amount of aid; may cause re-examination. The governor and council shall prescribe such blank forms, and make such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with law, as they deem proper for carrying out the provisions of this act, shall review the evidence submitted to them under the provisions of the preceding sections, and shall determine what applicants are entitled to benefits, and the amount thereof, and the benefit shall begin on the first day of the month next succeeding the date on which the decision is made; they may at any time require a re-examination of any applicant or applicants; they shall cause warrants to be drawn upon the treasurer of state, payable to said blind persons or their legal representatives at the close of each regular quarter thereafter, during the life of said persons while they are residents of this state or until said disability is removed.'

Approved April 7, 1917.

Chapter 301.

An Act Additional to Chapter Nineteen of the Revised Statutes, Relating to Care and Treatment of Certain Infectious Diseases.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 19, relating to public health and prevention of contagious diseases, amended. Chapter nineteen of the revised statutes, is hereby amended by adding at the end of said chapter the following sections, namely :

'Sec. 125. Venereal diseases; cases found in charitable or correctional institutions to be reported. It shall be the duty of every superintendent, manager or physician in charge of any state, county or municipal charitable or correctional institution immediately to report to the state board of health every case of venereal disease among the inmates of said institution of which he has knowledge. It shall be the duty of every superintendent, manager or physician in charge of any state-aided, county-aided, or municipally-aided charitable institution to make a similar report to the state board of health in relation to inmates of such institution, the cost of whose care and treatment is being paid in whole or in part by the state, or by any county or municipality in the state. Said report shall be made in the form which may be required by the rules and regulations of the said state board, provided that such rules and regulations shall not require said reports to be made in a form which will disclose to the state board of health or to any other person, except the said superintendent, manager or physician, the identity of the inmate. Said superintendents, managers and physicians shall comply with such rules and regulations as are made by the said state board to prevent the spread of venereal disease.

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Sec. 126. Reports to be treated as confidential. The reports to the state board of health prescribed by the preceding section shall be confidential, and shall not be accessible to the public nor shall such records and reports be deemed public records.

Sec. 127. Examination and treatment of gonorrhoea and syphilis. The state board of health shall provide, at the state laboratory of hygiene or elsewhere, facilities for the free bacteriological examination of discharges for the diagnosis of gonorrhoeal infections, and shall also provide at cost vaccine or anti-toxin for the treatment of such infections. And said board shall make at the expense of the state the Wassermann test for the diagnosis of syphilis; and shall furnish the treatment known as Salvarsan or other accredited specific treatment at cost.

Sec. 128. State board of health to include information, concerning venereal diseases, in bulletins. The state board of health shall include in bulletins and circulars distributed by it, information concerning the diseases covered by the preceding sections, provided that nothing shall be contained in such bulletins or circulars which will disclose the identity of the persons suffering from such venereal disease nor the identity of any state-aided, county-aided or municipally-aided charitable institution in which such persons are treated or cared for.

Sec. 129. Persons discovered afflicted, in institutions, to be treated; may be isolated; may be continued in custody; expenses after expiration of sentence. Any inmate of any state, county or municipal charitable or correctional institution, or any dependent child supported or partially supported by public funds, afflicted or suspected of being afflicted with venereal disease, shall forthwith be placed under medical treatment, and, if in the opinion of the attending physician, it is necessary, shall be isolated until danger of contagion is passed. Such case shall be immediately reported to the state board of health in accordance with the latter's rules and regulations, provided that such rules and regulations shall not require information disclosing the identity of any dependent or delinquent child, and the rules and regulations of the state board of health for the examination, testing and treatment of cases of venereal disease shall be faithfully observed. If the sentence or term of commitment of an inmate to any such state, county or municipal charitable or correctional institution expires before such disease is cured, or if, in the opinion of the attending physician of the institution, or of such physician as the authorities thereof may consult, his discharge would be dangerous to the public health, he shall be continued under such medical treatment, care and custody until in the opinion of such physician his discharge will not endanger the public health. The expenses of his support and treatment shall be paid by the place in which he has a pauper settlement, or by the state if he has no pauper settlement, after notice of the expiration of his sentence and of his condition to the overseers of the poor of the city or town or plantation where he was residing at the time of his commitment to the institution.

Sec. 130. Penalty for neglect of duty. Any official or person who shall wilfully fail, neglect or refuse to perform any of the duties imposed upon

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him by the provisions of this act shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars or be imprisoned for not more than six months.

Sec. 131. Appropriation. For the purpose of enabling the state board of health to carry out the provisions of this act there is hereby appropriated for the year nineteen hundred seventeen the sum of four thousand dollars, and for the year nineteen hundred eighteen, the sum of four thousand dollars.

Approved April 7, 1917.

Chapter 302.

An Act to Prohibit the Selling or Giving Away of Air Rifles to Children under Fourteen Years of Age.

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

Sec. 1. Air rifles not to be sold or given to children under 14 years; penalty. Whoever sells or gives away an air rifle to any child under the age of fourteen years shall be fined not less than five or more than twenty dollars.

Sec. 2. Jurisdiction. Municipal courts and trial justices shall have jurisdiction of violations of the preceding section.

Approved April 7, 1917.

Chapter 303.

An Act to Establish the Farm Lands Loan Commissioners of Maine and to Authorize the Investment of Certain Moneys Now on Deposit in the State Treasury Known as the Reserved Land Fund.

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

Sec. 1. Principal and income reserved lands, made separate funds. All moneys on deposit in the state treasury on account of lands reserved for public uses which shall constitute the principal fund of such account on January first, one thousand nine hundred and eighteen, and all amounts credited to the same under the provisions of sections nineteen and twenty, of chapter eight, of the revised statutes, shall remain separate funds, the principal sum of which shall continue undiminished, except when payments shall be made therefrom to towns under the provisions of section twenty-one, of chapter eight, of the revised statutes, or when invested in securities according to the provisions of this act.

Sec. 2. Farm Lands Loan Commissioners of Maine; composition of board, powers and duties. The governor, the state auditor, the land agent, the commissioner of agriculture and the state superintendent of public schools shall constitute a board to be known as the "Farm Lands Loan Com-