

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

EIGHTH REVISION

THE  
REVISED STATUTES

OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE

PASSED SEPTEMBER 20, 1944, AND TAKING EFFECT  
DECEMBER 30, 1944

VOLUME II



By the Authority of the Legislature

---

AUGUSTA  
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT

## CHAPTER 136.

**SENTENCE. LIBERATION OF POOR CONVICTS. PROBATION OFFICERS. PAROLE. PARDONS. FUGITIVES FROM JUSTICE.**

Sections 1-10	Sentences and the Imposition Thereof.
Sections 11-27	Provisions for Sentences to State Prison.
Sections 28-42	Probation.
Sections 43-45	Execution of Sentences.
Sections 46-48	Convicts.
Sections 49-54	Pardons and Commutation of Sentences.
Section 55	Fugitives from Justice.

**Sentences and the Imposition Thereof**

**Sec. 1. No person to be punished until convicted; costs.** R. S. c. 147, § 1. 1933, c. 231. No person shall be punished for an offense until convicted thereof in a court having jurisdiction of the person and case. When it is provided that he shall be punished by imprisonment and fine or by fine and costs, and in addition thereto, imprisonment, the court may in its discretion, after imposing sentence of fine and costs and imprisonment, place him on probation as to such imprisonment in accordance with the provisions of this chapter on condition that he pay the fine and costs, and in default of such payment, impose a sentence of imprisonment for not more than 6 months. Nothing in this section shall be construed in any way to affect the right of the court to place the respondent on probation as to both fine and cost and imprisonment. In all cases where a fine is imposed he may be sentenced to pay the costs of prosecution; and for violations of the provisions of sections 66, 68, 85, and 90 of chapter 57, and of sections 114 to 121, inclusive, of chapter 88, he shall be sentenced to pay such costs.

115 Me. 513; 128 Me. 523.

**Sec. 2. Sentence to imprisonment and fine.** R. S. c. 147, § 1. When no punishment is provided by statute, a person convicted of an offense shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500, or by imprisonment for less than 1 year.

**Sec. 3. Punishment when convict has been previously sentenced to any state prison.** R. S. c. 147, § 2. When a person is convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment in the state prison, and it is alleged in the indictment and proved or admitted on trial, that he had been before convicted and sentenced to any state prison by any court of this state, or of any other state, or of the United States, whether pardoned therefor or not, he may be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for any term of years.

**Sec. 4. State prison sentence; imprisonment for misdemeanor.** R. S. c. 147, § 3. Unless otherwise specially provided, all imprisonments for 1 year or more shall be in the state prison; and all for a less term, in the county jail or house of correction. When it is provided that imprisonment shall be in jail, the sentence may be for imprisonment there or in a house of correction; and it may be conditional that the convict shall pay a fine and costs, but that if it is not paid in 10 days, then he shall be imprisoned for not more than 6 months.

See c. 124, § 35, re commitment of rogues, vagabonds, idle persons etc.; \*69 Me. 182; 84 Me. 33; 99 Me. 334; 117 Me. 336; 123 Me. 414.

**Sec. 5. Work-jail sentences.** R. S. c. 147, § 4. When the punishment provided by law may be imprisonment in the state prison for 3 years or less, such punishment may be inflicted by the court, in its discretion, in any of the work-jails.

See c. 79, § 19, re county commissioners to provide for employment of prisoners; 123 Me. 414.

**Sec. 6. Alternative sentences to work-jails; authority of inspectors, in case of incorrigible or dangerous convicts.** R. S. c. 147, § 5. When a convict is sentenced to imprisonment and labor in any of the work-jails, the court or magistrate may in addition sentence him to the other punishment provided by law for the same offense, with the condition that if such convict cannot be received at the work-jail to which he is sentenced, or if at any time before the expiration of said sentence, in the judgment of the inspectors of jails, he becomes incorrigible or unsafe, they may order that he suffer such alternative sentence or punishment; and if said alternative sentence is to the state prison, the sheriff of the county where such convict is imprisoned shall forthwith, upon receiving the order of said inspectors, cause said convict to be conveyed to the state prison at the expense of the county where he was sentenced.

See c. 79, §§ 18, 19, re employment of prisoners in county jails; 110 Me. 100.

**Sec. 7. Courts may sentence to any work-jail, nearest to the county where offense was committed; prison sentences include labor.** R. S. c. 147, § 6. 1933, c. 118, § 1. The superior court and any municipal court or trial justice, in the county where a work-jail is situate or in any county where there is no work-jail may, subject to the provisions of the following section, sentence any person convicted of an offense punishable by imprisonment to any of the work-jails nearest or most convenient to the county where the offense is committed, and all sentences of imprisonment shall include labor. The keeper of such work-jail shall receive and detain such prisoner in the same manner as if committed by a court sitting in the county where such work-jail is situated. Any officer of any county qualified to serve criminal precepts in his county may serve any precept required by this and the preceding section, whether such service is performed in whole or in part in one or more counties, and processes shall be issued and directed accordingly.

**Sec. 8. Commitment to be in county where convicted.** R. S. c. 147, § 7. 1933, c. 118, § 1. Any person sentenced by any trial justice or judge of any municipal court to a term of imprisonment in a jail, not exceeding 4 months, shall be committed to the jail in the county in which such person is convicted, provided such county has a suitable jail, otherwise such commitment may be to any jail in the state.

**Sec. 9. Expenses of prisoners from other counties, how to be paid.** R. S. c. 147, § 8. There shall be paid to the county to which a prisoner from any other county may be sentenced and committed, by such other county, such sum as may be agreed upon by the county commissioners of said counties for subsistence and detention, deducting the amount received for labor, and if said commissioners do not agree upon the amount to be paid, representation of the facts may be made to the superior court or any justice thereof, and the amount shall be determined by such court or justice, either in term time or vacation.

**Sec. 10. In cases of misdemeanors, sureties to keep the peace may be required.** R. S. c. 147, § 9. In addition to the punishment prescribed by law, the court may require any person convicted of an offense not punishable by im-

prisonment in the state prison, to recognize to the state, with sufficient sureties, in a reasonable sum, to keep the peace and be of good behavior for a term not exceeding 2 years, and to stand committed until he so recognizes.

See c. 131, § 1, re security to keep the peace; 110 Me. 99.

### Provisions for Sentences to State Prison

**Sec. 11. Maximum and minimum terms; judge to examine into causes of criminal character of prisoner.** R. S. c. 147, § 25. When any person shall be convicted of crime, the punishment for which prescribed by law may be imprisonment in the state prison, the court imposing sentence shall not fix a definite term in said state prison but shall fix maximum and minimum terms. The maximum sentence shall not exceed the longest term fixed by law for the punishment of the offense of which the person sentenced is convicted, and the minimum sentence shall not exceed one-half of the maximum term of imprisonment fixed by statute and shall not be less than 6 months in any case. The judge, before or at the time of pronouncing such sentences, shall ascertain by examination of the prisoner, and by such other evidence as can be obtained, any facts tending to indicate briefly the causes of the criminal character or conduct of such prisoner, which facts, and such other facts as shall appear to be pertinent to the case, shall be caused by said judge to be entered upon the minutes of the court.

**Sec. 12. Persons subject to imprisonment for life excepted.** R. S. c. 147, § 26. 1939, c. 294. The provisions of sections 11 to 26, inclusive, shall not apply to any person convicted of an offense the only punishment for which prescribed by law is imprisonment for life, nor to any person convicted of an offense under the provisions of sections 10, 11, or 12 of chapter 117 or under the provisions of section 6 of chapter 121. Provided that in all other cases where the maximum sentence, in the discretion of the court, may be for life or any number of years, the court imposing sentence shall fix both the minimum and maximum sentence. The minimum term of imprisonment thus fixed by the court shall not exceed one-half of the maximum term so fixed.

**Sec. 13. Record to be forwarded to warden.** R. S. c. 147, § 27. Whenever a person shall be convicted of a crime and sentenced to imprisonment pursuant to the provisions of sections 11 to 26, inclusive, the clerk of the court shall make and forward to the warden of the prison a record containing a copy of the information or complaint, the sentence pronounced by the court, the name and residence of the judge presiding at the trial, prosecuting attorney, and sheriff, and the names and post-office addresses of the jurors and the witnesses sworn on the trial, together with a statement of any fact or facts which the presiding judge may deem important or necessary for a full comprehension of the case, and a reference to the statute under which the sentence was imposed. Such record shall be delivered to the warden at the time the prisoner is received into the prison.

**Sec. 14. Parole board to make rules and regulations; prisoners must serve minimum sentence.** R. S. c. 147, § 28. 1933, c. 153, § 1. The parole board may adopt such rules as it may deem wise or necessary properly to carry out the provisions of sections 11 to 26, inclusive, and may amend such rules at pleasure. Prisoners, under the provisions of said sections, shall be eligible to parole and may be paroled by the parole board only after the expiration of their minimum term of imprisonment with the deduction provided by law.

See c. 23, §§ 1, 5, re supervision of institutions; c. 23, § 7, re parole board.

**Sec. 15. Application for parole; action thereon by parole board.** R. S. c. 147, § 29. 1933, c. 153, § 2. Application shall be made to the parole board upon uniform blanks prescribed by them, or to the warden of the prison. The warden, when requested by a prisoner whose minimum term of imprisonment has expired and who is eligible to parole, shall furnish such prisoner with a blank application for parole. The application shall be filled out and delivered to the warden who shall immediately forward the same to the parole board with his recommendation indorsed thereon. Upon receipt of such application and recommendation, the parole board shall make such investigation in the matter as they may deem advisable and necessary, and may, in their discretion, grant such application and issue a parole or permit to such applicant to go at large without the enclosures of the prison.

**Sec. 16. Certain convicts in the state prison on March 14, 1913 eligible to parole.** R. S. c. 147, § 31. 1933, c. 153, § 4. Every person confined in the state prison on the 14th day of March, 1913, under sentence for a definite term for a felony, unless the term be for life, who has never before been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment in a state prison, shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the parole board in the matter of paroles and may be paroled in the same manner and subject to the same conditions and penalties as prisoners confined under indeterminate sentences under the provisions of sections 11 to 26, inclusive. The minimum and maximum terms of the sentences of said prisoners are fixed and determined to be as follows: the definite term for which each person is sentenced shall be the maximum limit of his term and if the definite term for which the person is sentenced is 2 years or less the minimum limit of his term shall be 1 year. If the definite term for which the person is sentenced is more than 2 years, one-half of the definite term of his sentence shall be the minimum limit of his term.

**Sec. 17. Duration of parole.** R. S. c. 147, § 36. 1933, c. 153, § 7. At the time of granting parole to any prisoner the parole board shall determine the length of time the prisoner shall remain on parole, which time may be subsequently extended or reduced, but which shall not be more than 4 years in any case.

**Sec. 18. State to furnish clothing and transportation to paroled prisoners.** R. S. c. 147, § 40. 1931, c. 195. Whenever any prisoner is released upon parole, he may receive from the state clothing not exceeding \$20 in cost and transportation to the place where he was convicted, or to his home, if within the state; and may receive cash not exceeding \$10.

**Sec. 19. Prisoner on parole deemed to be serving his sentence; condition.** R. S. c. 147, § 30. 1933, c. 153, § 3. The prisoner paroled under the provisions of this chapter, while at large by virtue of such parole, shall be deemed to be still serving the sentence imposed upon him, and shall be entitled to good time the same as if confined in prison. Provided that whenever the prisoner so paroled shall have been committed to or confined in the prison from a county other than the county in which the prison is situated, it shall be made a condition of his parole that he shall not live or remain in the county in which the prison is situated, without the express consent of the parole board, which consent may be granted or revoked by the parole board for cause shown at any time before such convict is finally discharged.

**Sec. 20. Prisoners on parole to be in legal custody of warden; may be returned to prison.** R. S. c. 147, § 33. 1933, c. 153, § 6. Every prisoner, while

on parole under the provisions of this chapter, shall remain in the legal custody and under the control of the warden of the prison from which he is paroled and shall be subject at any time to be taken back within the enclosure of said prison for any reason that may be satisfactory to the warden, and full power to retake and return any such paroled prisoner to the prison from which he was allowed to go at large is expressly conferred upon the warden of such prison, whose written order shall be a sufficient warrant authorizing all officers named therein to return such paroled prisoner to actual custody in the prison from which he was permitted to go at large. When the warden shall return to prison any paroled prisoner, he shall at once report the fact and his reasons therefor to the parole board, and his action shall stand approved unless reversed by a majority vote of said board, but no prisoner shall be returned twice for the same offense.

**Sec. 21. Monthly report of paroled prisoner; duty of officer receiving report; summary of paroles in annual report of parole board.** R. S. c. 147, § 37. 1933, c. 153, § 8. On the last day of each month, each paroled prisoner shall make a written report to the warden of the prison from which he was released, showing his conduct during the current month, his employment, earnings, and expenditures, his probable post-office address and place of employment for the coming month, and the warden in charge of said institution shall, not later than the 15th day of each month, tabulate and report to the parole board, in writing, the information thus received, and he shall immediately communicate to the parole board all violations and infractions of the rules governing such paroled prisoners. In their annual report to the governor, the parole board shall include a summary of the paroles and releases under the provisions of sections 11 to 26, inclusive, the names of all prisoners who have violated their paroles, the nature of such violations, together with such information concerning the operations under the law as may be deemed to be of public interest.

See c. 23, § 7, re parole officers.

**Sec. 22. A prisoner violating his parole to be considered as an escaped prisoner.** R. S. c. 147, § 34. 1943, c. 201, § 1. A prisoner violating the provisions of his parole and for whose return a warrant has been issued by the warden shall, after the issuance of such warrant, be treated as an escaped prisoner owing service to the state, and shall be liable, after arrest, to serve out the unexpired portion of his maximum sentence. The length of service owed the state in any such case shall be determined by deducting from the maximum sentence the time from date of commitment to the prison to date of violation of parole and such prisoner shall forfeit any deduction made from his sentence by reason of faithful observance of the rules and requirements of the prison prior to parole or while on parole. This section shall not be construed to prevent time allowance by reason of faithful observance of the rules and requirements of the prison during the unexpired portion of such maximum sentence, or to prevent the reparole of such prisoner in the discretion of the parole board.

**Sec. 23. Crime by paroled prisoner while at large.** R. S. c. 147, § 35. Any prisoner committing a crime while at large upon parole or conditional release and being convicted and sentenced therefor shall serve the 2nd sentence to commence from the date of the termination of the 1st sentence whether such sentence is served or annulled.

**Sec. 24. Final discharge.** R. S. c. 147, § 36. After any prisoner has faithfully performed all the obligations of his parole for the period of time fixed, and has regularly made his monthly reports as required by the rules providing for

his parole, he shall be deemed to have fully served his entire sentence, and shall then receive a certificate of final discharge from the warden in whose custody he is. A copy of such final discharge shall be kept on file by the clerk of the parole board.

**Sec. 25. Record to be kept at institution where prisoner was confined.** R. S. c. 147, § 38. 1933, c. 153, § 9. There shall be kept in the prison by the warden thereof a book containing a full and accurate record of each and every transaction had under the provisions of this chapter relating to paroles. A summary of such record shall be filed with the parole board, to be by said board compiled and included in its annual report.

See c. 23, § 7, re parole standards.

**Sec. 26. Secretary of board to furnish blanks.** R. S. c. 147, § 39. 1933, c. 153, § 10. The secretary of the parole board is authorized to provide all blanks required for the proper execution of the provisions of this chapter relating to paroles, after the forms for such blanks have been approved by the board.

**Sec. 27. Power of governor to grant pardons not impaired.** R. S. c. 147, § 43. Nothing in the 16 preceding sections shall be construed to interfere or impair the power of the governor to grant pardons or commutations of sentence; nor shall anything therein contained be construed to interfere with the rights of any person who may be serving out a term of imprisonment in any penal institution in this state by virtue of a sentence imposed under any law heretofore or now in force.

See Const. of Me., Art. V, Part 1, § 11, re power of governor to grant pardon etc.

### Probation

See c. 16, § 3.

**Sec. 28. Probation officers, appointment of; tenure, and compensation; appointment of additional officer; special provisions for Cumberland and Androscoggin counties.** R. S. c. 147, § 10. 1939, c. 49. 1941, c. 82. 1943, cc. 239, 281. The governor, by and with the consent of the council, shall appoint in any county of the state where in his judgment such an appointment is advisable, 1 probation officer, who shall be a citizen in the county for which said appointment is made, and of good moral character, and shall hold office during the pleasure of the governor and council, receiving as compensation therefor such sums as the county commissioners shall fix, which shall be paid from the county treasury in equal monthly instalments. The county commissioners of such county shall at their next session after such appointment by the governor, determine and fix the amount of such compensation, which shall not be diminished during the term of office of the probation officer, but may be increased if it seems just to the county commissioners to do so. In addition to such compensation, each probation officer shall receive monthly such sums as are reasonably and properly paid for expenses incurred in the performance of the officer's duty. Each probation officer shall on or before the last day of each month submit under oath to the county commissioners of such county an itemized statement of such expenditures. If in any county it seems to the governor and council necessary to have more than 1 probation officer, the governor, with the consent of the council, may appoint one or more associates, who shall have all the authority under the direction of the probation officer which such probation officer has, and who shall receive for compensation and expenses such sum as the county commissioners of such counties shall deem just and proper.



The county of Cumberland is expressly exempted from the preceding provisions of this section and nothing in this section shall affect or modify any law pertaining to the appointment of probation officers and their duties within and for the county of Cumberland, except as follows: at the expiration of the terms of office of the probation officer and assistant probation officer of the county of Cumberland, their successors shall be appointed by the judge of the municipal court for the city of Portland, and said appointments shall be approved by a justice of the superior court resident in Cumberland county or by the chief justice of the supreme judicial court.

The county of Androscoggin shall have 2 probation officers, one to be designated probation officer and one to be designated assistant probation officer; and the county commissioners for Androscoggin county shall pay the probation officer a salary of \$1,800, annually, and shall pay the assistant probation officer a salary of \$1,000, annually; and furthermore the probation officers for Androscoggin county shall be entitled to select a clerk or stenographer for the probation office, and the county commissioners shall appropriate the sum of \$832, annually, for such clerk hire. Furthermore, the county commissioners for Androscoggin county shall provide suitable quarters in the county building for this office.

The county commissioners shall require the probation officer to give corporate surety bond to the county in such sum as the county commissioners shall approve, conditioned that he shall, during his term of office, faithfully perform all the duties of his office.

See § 42, re exemption of Cumberland county from provisions of §§ 28-41, inclusive; 120 Me. 297.

**Sec. 29. Authority and duties of probation officers.** R. S. c. 147, § 11. Each probation officer shall have the authority to perform the duties prescribed in sections 28 to 42, inclusive, and for the purpose of performing such duties is invested with all the authority necessary therefor. Such probation officers in each county shall attend the superior court during the times when persons convicted of crime are sentenced, and shall give to the court upon request such information with reference to any individual accused or convicted of crime as shall be in his possession. Such probation officer shall attend the sessions of other courts within his county having criminal jurisdiction as often and as continuously as the performance of his duties shall permit, and shall give to such other courts information of the kind above mentioned.

See c. 133, § 5, re special probation officers for juveniles.

**Sec. 30. Court may continue for sentence, suspend sentence, or suspend the execution of any sentence, and place respondent in custody of probation officer; respondent to report to probation officer.** R. S. c. 147, § 12. When any person by plea of guilty, or upon trial, is convicted of any offense other than an offense punishable by imprisonment for life before any court having criminal jurisdiction, such court may in its discretion continue the matter for sentence, suspend sentence, or suspend the execution of any sentence, to be done under the provisions of sections 28 to 42, inclusive; but nothing herein contained shall be held to take away the right of appeal from any respondent, or any right to have his case reviewed or retried under the provisions of law as they now exist. The court at or before the time for sentence shall inquire into the circumstances of the respondent and of his offense, and if the matter is continued for sentence, the respondent shall be placed in the custody and under the control of the probation officer in the county where such respondent has been convicted.

Such sentence may be continued by the court indefinitely, or to a definite time, and in every instance the court may order the respondent to report to the probation officer at such times and places as the court shall designate, and shall cause a writing signed by the clerk or by the court, to be given to the respondent, showing such continuance for sentence, the time during which the same is continued, and the times and places when the respondent is to report to such probation officer.

116 Me. 196; 120 Me. 297; \*126 Me. 330.

**Sec. 31. Court may suspend sentence and place respondent on probation; violation of terms of probation; sentence may be imposed in vacation.** R. S. c. 147, § 14. 1935, c. 87. 1937, c. 43. 1943, c. 3. The court may in its discretion, if the offense is within the jurisdiction of the court trying the cause, continue for sentence, suspend sentence for a definite period of time, or for an indefinite time not exceeding 2 years, and such respondent may be committed to the custody and control of the probation officer.

In all cases where the respondent is committed to the custody or control of the probation officer, the court shall fix the period of time of such probation and the terms and conditions thereof, and shall give to each respondent a writing showing the terms of his probation and the times and places when and where such respondent is to report to such probation officer. Whenever such respondent violates the terms of his probation, the probation officer shall forthwith report the same to the court which finally tried the cause or to any justice of said court in vacation. The respondent may at any time be brought by the probation officer before said court or any justice thereof in vacation, and the said court or said justice thereof in vacation, cause being shown, may order said probation ended and either impose the sentence if the cause has been continued for sentence, or order the respondent forthwith to comply with the original sentence, or, if it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of said court or to any justice thereof in vacation, as the case may be, that the ends of justice and the best interests of the public, as well as the respondent, will be subserved thereby, may order that probation be ended and that the respondent be allowed to go without day.

\*116 Me. 196; 120 Me. 297; \*126 Me. 330.

**Sec. 32. Court may impose sentence and release respondent to custody of probation officer, with opportunity to pay fine.** R. S. c. 147, § 13. 1943, c. 269, § 4. If the offense of which the respondent is convicted is within the jurisdiction of the court trying the same, the court may in its discretion impose a fine, or an alternative sentence of imprisonment, and release respondent into the custody of the probation officer, with an opportunity to pay such fine and costs to the probation officer within a definite time. When such respondent pays such fine and costs or any part thereof to the probation officer, such officer shall give the respondent a receipt therefor. Such officer shall render, under oath, a detailed account of all fines and costs received and shall pay such fines and costs into the treasury of the county on or before the 15th day of the month following such collection.

120 Me. 297; \*126 Me. 330.

**Sec. 33. Personal recognizance of parent of child under 17 years.** R. S. c. 147, § 15. 1941, c. 68, § 1. Whenever a child under the age of 17 years is arrested and charged with an offense other than a felony, or a crime which if committed by an adult would be a felony, the officer making such arrest may accept

in lieu of bail, and without committing such child to any jail or police station, the personal recognizance in writing, without security, of the parent, guardian, or other lawful custodian of such child to produce such child before the proper court or magistrate on the following day at a time and place to be specified in said recognizance; and thereupon such officer shall place such child in the care and custody of the person executing such recognizance, who, on failure to so produce such child pursuant to the terms of such recognizance, shall be liable to punishment by the court or magistrate as for criminal contempt. Similar recognizance may be taken by the court or magistrate for the subsequent production of such child at a time and place to be specified therein pending the final termination of the proceedings, and non-compliance therewith shall subject the person giving the same to the same punishment.

**Sec. 34. Child convicted of offense may be placed in custody of probation officer.** R. S. c. 147, § 16. When any such child has been convicted of any offense other than an offense punishable by imprisonment for life, the court or magistrate having jurisdiction, instead of committing such child to confinement in any institution, or ordering the payment of fine and costs, may place such child in the custody of the probation officer under suspension of such sentence, or a continuance of the same for a period of not more than 1 year. At any time within such year, if it appears to the court that justice requires it, said court or magistrate may cause such child to be brought into court and either impose sentence, if the case has been continued for sentence, or order such child to enter upon the execution of his sentence, if the execution of the same has been suspended.

**Sec. 35. Notice of arrest to parent, guardian, or legal custodian of child, and to probation officer.** R. S. c. 147, § 17. 1941, c. 68, § 2. Whenever any child under the age of 17 years has been arrested for any offense and is confined in any jail or police station, the officer making such arrest shall forthwith notify the parent, guardian, or legal custodian of such child of the fact of such arrest, and of the time and place where his trial is to be held. Such officer shall also notify a probation officer in his county of the fact of such arrest, and of the time and place of such trial. Any court having jurisdiction of the offense may, upon application of such probation officer, by an order in writing, cause such child to be forthwith placed in the custody of such probation officer pending the trial and final determination of said cause.

\*128 Me. 316.

**Sec. 36. Continuance without trial; child in custody of probation officer; discharge of respondent without trial.** R. S. c. 147, § 18. 1941, c. 68, § 3. When any child under the age of 17 years is brought before any court or magistrate for trial charged with any offense other than an offense punishable by imprisonment for life, the court may in its discretion continue such cause without trial from time to time, not exceeding 30 days at any one time, and release such child into the custody and control of the probation officer, who shall have authority to permit such child to remain in the home of such child if the same seems to him proper, or he may retain such child in his own custody, if the same can be done without expense to the county or the state. If at any time it seems to the court just and proper to discharge any such respondent without trial, the same may be done, and no child so discharged, nor any other person, shall have any right of action against any officer or other person on account of any of the proceedings in such case.

**Sec. 37. Court may appoint officer pro tempore.** R. S. c. 147, § 19. In case of the absence of the probation officer at the time and place when any such child is so arrested or to be tried, the court having jurisdiction may appoint some discreet male or female citizen of the county a probation officer pro tempore for the purpose of that particular case, who shall perform his duties without compensation or expense, and such probation officer shall have all the authority to perform all of the duties of the probation officer under the provisions of sections 28 to 42, inclusive; but the authority of such probation officer shall cease when he shall have performed the duties with reference to that particular cause.

**Sec. 38. Record of commitment to custody of probation officer; proceedings if terms of probation are violated.** R. S. c. 147, § 20. Whenever any such child has been committed to the custody and control of any probation officer, the court or magistrate shall cause to be entered upon the records of such court the fact of such commitment and the terms thereof, and the court shall have authority to order such probationer to report to the probation officer at such times and places as the court in its order shall direct. If at any time it appears to the court that such probationer has violated the terms of his probation, or that justice requires it, the court may order such child brought before it and may summarily deal with such child as the law provides.

**Sec. 39. Authority of probation officer.** R. S. c. 147, § 21. Any probation officer, having committed to his custody any child or other person, shall have the same authority with reference to the person of such child or other person as he would have were he surety upon the recognizance of such child or other person.

**Sec. 40. Continuance for sentence for purpose of restitution.** R. S. c. 147, § 22. If any person commits an offense against another for which the latter would have a civil action for damages, and such damages do not exceed the sum of \$20, the court trying such offender may in its discretion, if such offender is found guilty, continue the matter for sentence and commit the respondent to the custody of the probation officer for a definite period, within which time such offender may make restitution to the person injured. And if within such period such offender has made such restitution, the court at the expiration of such period may make such legal disposition of the case as seems proper to the court.

**Sec. 41. Investigation into school attendance.** R. S. c. 147, § 23. All probation officers shall investigate as fully as may be and order the attendance at some school of all children between the ages of 5 and 16 years, and for this purpose such probation officer shall have all authority of attendance officers.

See c. 37, §§ 80-88; re compulsory education.

**Sec. 42. County of Cumberland excepted.** R. S. c. 147, § 24. The county of Cumberland is expressly excepted from the provisions of the 14 preceding sections; nor shall the provisions of chapter 346 of the special laws for the year 1905 and of chapter 336 of the special laws for the year 1907, and acts amendatory thereof, be in any way thereby affected.

#### Execution of Sentences

**Sec. 43. Clerk's minutes are authority for officer to execute sentence.** R. S. c. 147, § 44. When a convict is sentenced to pay a fine or costs, or to be imprisoned in the county jail or house of correction, the clerk of courts, as soon as may be, shall make out and deliver to the sheriff or some officer in court, a tran-

script of the minutes of the conviction and sentence duly certified by him; which shall be sufficient authority for the officer to execute such sentence.

93 Me. 44; 115 Me. 513.

**Sec. 44. Sentence in default of payment of fine and costs.** R. S. c. 147, § 45. Whoever is convicted in any court or by a trial justice, of a crime which is punishable by a fine only, without imprisonment, and is liable to imprisonment in a county jail for the non-payment of said fine, may be sentenced to pay said fine and the costs of prosecution, and in default of payment thereof to be imprisoned in accordance with law; but the payment of said fine and costs at any time before the expiration of the imprisonment shall be a full performance of the sentence.

**Sec. 45. Removal of convicts to state prison; clothing for convict.** R. S. c. 147, § 46. When a convict is sentenced to confinement in the state prison, such clerk of courts shall make out a warrant under seal of the court, directed to the warden of the prison, requiring him to cause such convict, without needless delay, to be removed from the county jail to the state prison; the warden and all sheriffs and jail keepers shall strictly obey its directions; and the clerk, as soon as may be, shall deliver such warrant to the sheriff of the county, and he shall forthwith deliver it to said warden. The sheriff shall provide the convict with comfortable clothing in which to be removed to the state prison.

### Convicts

**Sec. 46. Convict, unable to pay fine or costs, may be liberated; proceedings.** R. S. c. 147, § 48. Except when otherwise expressly provided, any convict sentenced to pay a fine or costs and committed for default thereof and for no other cause, who is unable to pay the same, may be liberated by the sheriff after 30 days from his commitment, by giving his note for the amount due to the treasurer of the same county, accompanied by a written schedule of all his property of every kind, signed and sworn to before the sheriff, jailer, or any justice of the peace or trial justice, and the sheriff shall deliver the same to said treasurer, for the use of the county, within 30 days; and all convicts so committed may be placed at labor in the same manner as persons sentenced to imprisonment and labor.

74 Me. 220; 115 Me. 176, 513; \*125 Me. 433.

**Sec. 47. Notes are a lien on convict's real estate.** R. S. c. 147, § 49. The note provided for in the preceding section continues a lien on all the maker's real estate until it is fully paid; and if judgment is rendered on it in favor of the county treasurer, the same proceedings may be had on the execution as in other cases of contract.

**Sec. 48. Penalty for making a false schedule of property.** R. S. c. 147, § 50. If a convict is convicted of knowingly and wilfully making a false schedule, on oath, as to the nature or amount of his property, he shall receive no benefit from his liberation, but may be again imprisoned until the performance of the original sentence.

128 Me. 523.

### Pardons and Commutation of Sentences

**Sec. 49. Notice to be given to county attorney, on all petitions for pardon and commutation of sentences; his attendance if required; statement of facts to be**

furnished. R. S. c. 147, § 51. On all petitions to the governor for pardon or commutation of sentences, written notice thereof shall be given to the county attorney for the county where the case was tried at least 3 weeks before the time of the hearing thereon, and 3 weeks' notice in some newspaper printed and published in said county; and if the crime for which said pardon is asked is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison, the county attorney for the county where the case was tried shall, upon the request of the governor and council, attend the meeting of the governor and council at which the petition is to be heard, and the governor and council shall allow him his necessary expenses for such attendance and a reasonable compensation for his services to be paid from the state treasury out of the appropriation for costs in criminal prosecutions. The governor and council may require the judge and prosecuting officer who tried the case to furnish them a concise statement thereof as proved at the trial and any other facts bearing on the propriety of granting pardon or commutation.

**Sec. 50. When state prison sentence may be commuted to imprisonment in jail.** R. S. c. 147, § 52. When a person is sentenced to confinement in the state prison, the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, may, if he deems it consistent with the public interest and the welfare of the convict, commute said sentence to imprisonment in any county jail, there to be supported at the charge of the state at an expense not exceeding the price paid for the support of other prisoners in said jail.

**Sec. 51. Governor may grant conditional pardons.** R. S. c. 147, § 53. In any case in which the governor is authorized by the constitution to grant a pardon, he may, with the advice and consent of the council, and upon petition of the person convicted, grant it upon such conditions and with such restrictions and under such limitations as he deems proper, and he may issue his warrant to all proper officers to carry such pardon into effect; which warrant shall be obeyed and executed instead of the sentence originally awarded.

See Const. of Me., Art. V, Part 1, § 11, re power of governor to pardon etc.

**Sec. 52. Conditions under which convict may be again arrested.** R. S. c. 147, § 54. When a convict has been pardoned on conditions to be observed and performed by him, and the warden of the state prison, or keeper of the jail where the convict was confined, has reason to believe that he has violated the same, such officer shall forthwith cause him to be arrested and detained until the case can be examined by the governor and council; and the officer making the arrest shall forthwith give them notice thereof, in writing.

**Sec. 53. If governor and council find that conditions have been violated, convict to be remanded to prison.** R. S. c. 147, § 55. The governor and council shall, upon receiving the notice provided for in the preceding section, examine the case of such convict, and if it appears by his own admission or by evidence that he has violated the conditions of his pardon, the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall order him to be remanded and confined for the unexpired term of the sentence. In computing the period of his confinement, the time between the pardon and the subsequent arrest shall not be reckoned as part of the term of his sentence. If it appears to the governor and council that he has not broken the conditions of his pardon, he shall be discharged.

**Sec. 54. Officer, to whom warrant for pardon or commutation is issued, to make return.** R. S. c. 147, § 56. When a convict is pardoned or his punishment is commuted, the officer to whom the warrant for that purpose is issued shall, as soon as may be after executing the same, make return thereof, under his hand,

with his doings thereon, to the office of the secretary of state; and he shall also file in the clerk's office of the court in which the offender was convicted an attested copy of the warrant and return, a brief abstract whereof the clerk shall subjoin to the record of the conviction and sentence.

### Fugitives from Justice

**Sec. 55. Reward for the arrest and return of escaped prisoners and fugitives from justice. R. S. c. 147, § 57.** Whenever a prisoner convicted of or charged with a capital crime or other high offense escapes from prison; or there is reasonable cause to believe that a person who is charged with such offense and has not been apprehended therefor cannot be arrested and secured in the ordinary course of proceedings, the governor may, upon application in writing of the attorney-general or county attorney for the county in which such offense was committed, and upon such terms and conditions as he deems expedient and proper, offer a suitable reward, not exceeding \$1,000, for the arrest, return, and delivery into custody of such escaped prisoner or fugitive from justice; and upon satisfactory proof that the terms and conditions of such offer have been complied with, he may, with the advice and consent of the council, draw his warrant upon the treasurer of state for the payment thereof.

---

## CHAPTER 137.

### COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF FINES AND COSTS IN CRIMINAL CASES.

- Sections 1-2 Costs Taxable for the State in Criminal Prosecutions. General Provisions.  
 Sections 3-4 Duty of Clerks of Court.  
 Sections 5-7 Duty of Trial Justices and Judges of Municipal Courts.  
 Sections 8-10 Duty of Sheriffs and Other Officers.  
 Sections 11-13 Duty of County Treasurers.  
 Sections 14-15 Duty of County Attorneys.

#### Costs Taxable for the State in Criminal Prosecutions. General Provisions

**Sec. 1. Costs taxable for the state in criminal prosecutions. R. S. c. 126, § 9.** Costs taxable for the state in criminal prosecutions shall be as follows:

For the attorney acting for the state, in all cases in the superior court, \$1.25, unless there is a trial by jury, or an issue in law at the law court, in which case there shall be an additional charge of \$1.

For an indictment in the superior court, \$1.25.

For attendance, 33c a day, not to extend beyond the 2nd week of any 1 term; but no fees for travel shall be allowed in any case in which the state is a party.

No attendance shall be taxed in cases of defaulted recognizances, other than is taxed in the prosecutions in which they are taken, until the return of a writ of scire facias issued thereon.