

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1863.

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1863.

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 7

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTY-THREE.

AN ACT in aid of families of volunteers.

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

SECTION 1. The cities, towns and plantations in this
2 state, shall raise money by taxation, or otherwise, to
3 be applied to aid in the support of the wife, or
4 dependent mother, father, brother or sister, and minor
5 children, being inhabitants of such city, town or plan-
6 tation, of any soldier, sailor or marine who may be
7 actually engaged in the military or naval service of
8 the United States, in any recognized company, bat-
9 talion or regiment of this state, or of the United States,
10 or on board of any armed vessel of the United States,
11 during the present rebellion. The money so raised,
12 to be expended under the direction of the municipal

13 authorities of said cities, towns or plantations, as the
14 exigencies of the persons for whose benefit it was
15 intended may severally require for their support; and
16 such aid may, at the discretion of any city, town or
17 plantation, be continued to the family of any soldier,
18 sailor or marine killed in battle, or by the casualties of
19 war, or who may be discharged from service in conse-
20 quence of any disability resulting from the casualties
21 of war, and not from his own fault, for a period not
22 exceeding one year after such death or discharge;
23 *provided*, in case of discharge, he shall not sooner re-
24 cover from such disability.

SECT. 2. For the purpose of reimbursement, how-
2 ever, from the state, there shall be expended an amount
3 not exceeding seventy-five cents per week for a wife,
4 or dependent father and mother; fifty cents per week
5 for brother and sister; and fifty cents per week for
6 each child, being inhabitants as aforesaid, who at the
7 time of such soldier, sailor or marine being called into
8 the service were, and who shall continue to be depend-
9 ent on him for their support; *provided, however*, such
10 sum expended shall not exceed ten dollars per month
11 for all the persons thus dependent upon one soldier,
12 sailor or marine. And there shall be reimbursed from
13 the state treasury to such cities, towns or plantations,

14 three-fourths of such sums as shall be expended for
15 said aid.

SECT. 3. No such reimbursement shall be made in
2 any case, until an account of the expenditures duly
3 certified and sworn to by a majority of the proper
4 municipal authorities, shall be filed with the governor
5 and council, which account shall set forth the name of
6 the soldier for whose family expense has been incurred,
7 also the name and age of each person who received
8 aid, and the sum paid for each of said persons, and
9 that the same was necessary for their support. Ac-
10 counts thus made out and filed within the time herein-
11 after prescribed, shall be examined by the governor
12 and council, and if found correct and duly vouched,
13 shall be approved.

SECT. 4. Such accounts shall be rendered to the
2 first of January current, and shall be filed with the
3 governor and council on or before the fifteenth day of
4 January in each year, and shall be passed upon by
5 them on or before the first day of March following.
6 If approved, three-fourths of the amount of such bills
7 shall be paid in cash to such cities, towns or planta-
8 tions, or passed to their credit.

SECT. 5. No pauper disabilities shall be created by
2 reason of receiving the aid provided for in this act.

SECT. 6. The word plantation where it occurs in 2 this act is intended to include plantations duly organ- 3 ized for election purposes; but unorganized plantations 4 may draw their aid from and through the officers of 5 plantations where they vote.

SECT. 7. Chapter one hundred and twenty-seven of 2 the public laws of eighteen hundred and sixty-two is 3 hereby repealed, and the provisions of the act passed 4 April twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, 5 and also the provisions of this act in relation to the 6 relief of families of soldiers, sailors or marines, is here- 7 by extended to all the regiments which have been or 8 may be hereafter raised in this state, or who may enter 9 the service of the United States.

SECT. 8. This act shall take effect from and after 2 its approval by the governor; and the secretary of state 3 shall furnish an attested copy of this act to the clerks 4 of the several cities, towns and plantations of this state 5 within thirty days from its approval by the governor.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 26, 1863. }

Presented by Mr. GUNNISON, from the Joint Select Committee on Aid to Families of Volunteers, read twice, and on motion of Mr. CROSBY of Dexter, laid upon the table and 350 copies ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature.

CHARLES A. MILLER, *Clerk.*