

ACTS AND RESOLVES
OF THE
SEVENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
1907.

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CHAP. 44**Chapter 44.**

An Act to provide for the care and education of the Feeble Minded.

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

School for
idiotic and
feeble-
minded, to
establish.

Section 1. The state shall establish and maintain a school for the care and education of the idiotic and feeble minded six years of age and upward, which shall be known as the Maine School for Feeble Minded. All such feeble minded persons supported by towns in the state, who, in the judgment of the municipal officers of towns or state board of charities are capable of being benefited by school instruction, shall be committed to this institution.

Appointment
of trustees.

Section 2. The governor shall, with the advice of the council, appoint five persons, all of whom shall be inhabitants of this state and one of that number shall be a female, to be trustees of such school.

Tenure.

The trustees shall be appointed as follows: The first three to serve for two years; the other two for four years, and thereafter said trustees shall be appointed to serve for four years.

Management
of school.

The said trustees shall have the general management and supervision of said school and one or more of said trustees shall visit said school as often as once each month, and said board of trustees shall annually on or before the first day of October of each year furnish a report to the governor and council containing a history of the school for the year and a complete statement of all accounts, with all the funds, general and special, appropriated or belonging to said school with a detailed statement of disbursements.

Destitute
subjects
may be
admitted
as state
charges.

Section 3. All indigent and destitute persons in this state, who are proper subjects for said school, and have no parents, kinsmen or guardian able to provide for them, may be admitted as state charges and all other persons in this state, who are proper subjects for said school when parents, kinsmen or guardian bound by the law to support such persons are able to pay, shall pay such sum for care, education and maintenance of such persons as the trustees shall determine, and such persons from other states having no such institution and similar schools may be received into such school when there is room for them without excluding state charges, at a cost to such person or those who are legally responsible for their maintenance at a cost of not less than three dollars and twenty-five cents per week.

—subjects
from other
states may
be received.

Governor,
ex-officio,
trustee.

Section 4. The governor shall be, ex-officio, a member of the board of trustees of said school and shall annually visit said school.

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Section 5. Whenever it is made to appear, upon application to the judge of probate for any county and after due notice and a proper hearing, that any person resident in said county and who is not already in any almshouse, the industrial school or hospital in Maine or supported by any town, is a fit subject for the Maine School for Feeble Minded, such judge may commit such person to said school by an order of commitment directed to the trustees of said school for feeble minded accompanied by a certificate of two physicians who are graduates of some legally organized medical college and have practiced three years in this state, that such a person is a proper subject for said institution. Whenever, upon such application, there is occasion for the judge of probate to attend a hearing on days other than days fixed as the regular day for holding the probate court, said judge of probate shall be allowed five dollars per day for his services and expenses, which shall be paid by the county treasurer upon the certificate of the county commissioners.

Judge of probate may commit to school.

—compensation of judge of probate for services.

Section 6. Any order of committal under this act shall be subject to appeal in the same manner by the same persons and to the same extent that decrees of the judge of probate appointing guardians over persons alleged to be insane or incompetent or spendthrift, and no committal under this act shall bar habeas corpus proceedings, but the court upon habeas corpus proceedings may confirm the order of commitment whenever justice requires. Any inmate of the Maine School for the Feeble Minded may be discharged by any three of the trustees or by a justice of the supreme or superior court of the state whenever a further detention in such school in their opinion is unnecessary, but any person so discharged who was under sentence of imprisonment at the time of his commitment, the period of which shall not have expired, shall be committed or remanded to prison for such unexpired time.

Order of committal subject to appeal.

—inmate of school may be discharged by trustees or justice of court.

Section 7. Feeble minded persons shall be admitted to the institution in the following order: First, feeble minded persons who are now in public institutions supported entirely at public expense; second, feeble minded persons in public institutions not supported as aforesaid; third, feeble minded persons who are not in any institution of the state, who have no parents, kinsmen or guardian able to provide for them, or who are committed by a judge of probate; fourth, those residing within the state whose parents, kinsmen or guardian bound by law to support such persons are able to pay; fifth, persons of other states whose parents, kinsmen or guardian are willing to pay.

Order of admittance.
—first.

—second.

—third.

—fourth.

—fifth.

Section 8. The governor and council shall select and purchase a suitable site for said school and home and the board of trustees, as soon as appointed and organized, shall proceed as

—Governor and council shall select and purchase suitable site.

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soon as practicable to erect thereon and properly furnish and equip suitable buildings and structures to accomplish the objects set forth in this act.

Trustees to make rules and regulations.

Section 9. Said trustees shall have power to make all necessary rules and regulations as to admission to said institution and for the government and control of said institution and its inmates, and to do everything necessary to properly care for and educate the feeble minded of the state.

—governor shall draw warrant.

For all bills contracted by the governor and council as afore-said in purchasing a site the governor shall draw his warrant upon any money in the treasury to pay the same not otherwise appropriated, and all bills contracted by the trustees in erecting, repairing and equipping suitable buildings and operating the institution shall each year be audited by the governor and council, and the governor shall draw his warrant upon any money in the treasury to pay the same not otherwise appropriated.

—accounts of trustees shall be audited.

Appropriation.

Section 10. A sum of money not exceeding sixty thousand dollars shall be appropriated under this act to be used and expended for the purposes therein named within the next two years.

Compensation of trustees.

Section 11. The trustees shall receive five dollars per day when employed and actual expenses.

Section 12. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act, are hereby repealed.

Approved March 6, 1907.

Chapter 45.

An Act to amend Section fourteen of Chapter sixty of the Revised Statutes, relating to Agricultural Societies.

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

Section 14, chapter 60, R. S., amended.

Section fourteen of chapter sixty of the revised statutes is amended by striking out the words "one cent and one-quarter" in the second line of said section and substituting therefor the words 'two cents,' so that said section as amended, will read as follows:

Amount that shall be paid agricultural societies by the state.

Section 14. There shall be appropriated annually from the state treasury, a sum of money not exceeding two cents to each inhabitant of the state, which shall be divided among the legally incorporated agricultural societies of the state not provided for by special enactment, according to the amount of premiums and gratuities actually paid in full, on exhibition stocks and products, and provided, that no society shall receive from the state a sum greater than actually raised and paid by the society for said

—proviso.