

SENATE No. 38.

SENATE, Jan. 24, 1901.

[Introduced on leave by Senator Manning of Worcester. Education.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and One.

AN ACT

Relative to the Punishment of Habitual Truants and
School Offenders.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives
in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the
same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section twenty-four of chapter
2 four hundred and ninety-six of the acts of eight-
3 een hundred and ninety-eight is hereby amended
4 by striking out in line six the words "if a boy,"
5 and by striking out in lines seven and eight the
6 words, "and if a girl, to the State industrial
7 school for girls," — so as to read as follows: —

8 *Section 24.* Every habitual truant, that is, every
9 child between seven and fourteen years of age
10 who wilfully and habitually absents himself from
11 school contrary to the provisions of section twelve
12 of this act, upon complaint by a truant officer, and
13 conviction thereof, may be committed, to a county

14 truant school for a period not exceeding two
15 years, unless such child is placed on probation as
16 provided in section twenty-eight of this act.

1 SECTION 2. Section twenty-six of chapter four
2 hundred and ninety-six of the acts of the year
3 eighteen hundred and ninety-eight is hereby
4 amended by striking out in lines seven and eight
5 the words "if a boy, at the discretion of the
6 court," and by inserting in line nine after the
7 word "or" the words: — at the discretion of the
8 court if a boy, — so that it shall read as follows: —

9 *Section 26.* Every habitual school offender,
10 that is, every child under fourteen years of age
11 who persistently violates the reasonable regula-
12 tions of the school which he attends, or otherwise
13 persistently misbehaves therein, so as to render
14 himself a fit subject for exclusion therefrom upon
15 complaint by a truant officer and conviction
16 thereof, may be committed to a county truant
17 school for a period not exceeding two years, or at
18 the discretion of the court, if a boy, to the Lyman
19 school for boys, and if a girl, to the State indus-
20 trial school for girls, unless such child is placed
21 on probation as provided in section twenty-eight
22 of this act.

1 SECTION 3. Section thirty-two of said act is
2 hereby amended by striking out in the seven-
3 teenth, eighteenth and nineteenth lines, thereof,
4 the following words: "no child under seventeen
5 years of age shall be committed under this act,
6 except to a county truant school and."