

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 961

H. P. 716

House of Representatives, February 18, 1971

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Lynch of Livermore Falls.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-ONE

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**AN ACT** Relating to the Annual Division of the Interest Arising from the  
Ministerial and School Fund of Turner, Maine.

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

**P. & S. L., 1840, c. 69, repealed and replaced.** Chapter 69 of the private and special laws of 1840 is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

Interest of Ministerial and School Fund to be divided annually. The trustees of the Ministerial and School Fund in the Town of Turner are directed and empowered to divide annually the interest arising on said Ministerial and School Fund among such churches, synagogues and houses of worship as shall be established in the Town of Turner on the last day of the year in which said interest was earned. A church, synagogue or house of worship shall be deemed to be "established" when it has 25 regular parishioners, communicants or members and shall be meeting on a regular basis.

STATEMENT OF FACT

By an 1807 Act of the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts the Trustees of the Ministerial and Grammar School Funds in the Town of Turner were incorporated into a body politic; and by chapter 69 of the private and special laws of 1840 a method for the division of the Ministerial and School Fund was established. Said method of division has become cumbersome and difficult to administer. The trustees are skeptical of the constitutionality of an Act directing them to divide the interest arising from said Ministerial and School Fund among the ministers of a single faith.