

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1099

H.P. 811

House of Representatives, February 18, 1997

An Act to Modify School Construction Laws for Renovation Projects.

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative KERR of Old Orchard Beach.
Cosponsored by Senator MICHAUD of Penobscot and
Representative TESSIER of Fairfield, Senators: CLEVELAND of Androscoggin,
HARRIMAN of Cumberland, MILLS of Somerset.

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

2
3 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15901, sub-§4-A**, as amended by PL 1991, c.
4 268, §6, is further amended to read:

5 **4-A. Small scale school construction project.** "Small scale
6 school construction project" means a project that will not be
7 eligible for state subsidy and is limited to:

8
9 A. New buildings not exceeding 600 square feet in gross
10 area to be utilized solely for storage or custodial work, or
11 both; or

12
13 B. On-site additions to existing school buildings not
14 exceeding 600 square feet in gross area.

15
16 "Small scale school construction project" does not mean the
17 purchase, lease-purchase or construction of portable temporary
18 classroom space, as defined in section 15603, subsection 19-A or
19 the lease-purchase of bus garage and maintenance facilities, as
20 defined in section 15603, subsection 6-A.

21
22 Notwithstanding this subsection, a small scale construction
23 project is eligible for funding if it meets the specifications in
24 section 15905-B.

25
26 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15905-B** is enacted to read:

27
28 **§15905-B. Approval of small scale construction projects with 50%**
29 **local funding**

30
31 **1. Approval authority.** The state board may approve a small
32 scale construction project with 50% local funding in accordance
33 with the rules adopted pursuant to this section. The state board
34 may approve up to \$500,000 in debt service in any year for the
35 purpose of funding projects that meet the requirements of this
36 section.

37
38 **2. Eligible projects.** A project eligible for funding under
39 this section may not exceed \$150,000 and 50% of the project must
40 be funded by the local school administrative unit.

41
42 **3. Rules.** The state board shall adopt or amend rules
43 relating to the approval of small scale construction projects
44 with 50% local funding, including establishing procedures for
45 prioritizing and selecting projects for approval. Rules adopted
46 under this section are major substantive rules pursuant to Title
47 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.
48

2 4. Local vote. Prior to approval by the state board, a
small scale construction project with 50% local funding must
4 receive a favorable vote in accordance with section 15904.

6 **Sec. 3. Retroactivity.** This Act applies retroactively to June
30, 1996.

8

SUMMARY

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12 This bill allows the Board of Education to approve funding
for small scale construction projects if 50% of the funding comes
14 from the local school administrative unit and the project cost
does not exceed \$150,000. The state board is authorized to
approve up to \$500,000 for eligible projects annually.