

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Education Programs For Dropouts  
20 M.R.S.A. 931 et seq.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
April 8, 1977

Honorable Laurence E. Connolly, Jr.  
House of Representatives  
State House  
Augusta, Maine

Re: Enforcement of 20 M.R.S.A. §§ 931, et seq.

Dear Representative Connolly:

This letter is in response to your inquiry as to what legal action may be taken to require a school superintendent to establish a positive action committee to deal with "dropouts" in compliance with 20 M.R.S.A. §§ 931, et seq.

Title 20 M.R.S.A. § 854 requires the Governor, if he "has reason to believe that a town or district has neglected . . . in any way to comply with the law prescribing the duties of administrative units in relation to public schools," to "direct the Treasurer of State to withhold from the apportionment of state school funds made to that administrative unit such amount as he may deem expedient.

In addition, there may be alternative legal remedies available to private citizens who are effected or to the local school districts. Such matters would have to be addressed by local attorneys depending on the facts of the particular case.

I hope this information is helpful.

Very truly yours,

*Joseph E. Brennan*  
JOSEPH E. BRENNAN  
Attorney General

JEB:jg  
cc: W. G. Buschmann