

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 273

H. P. 204

House of Representatives, January 16, 1963

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Tyndale of Kennebunkport.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Admission to Kindergarten and Grade One in the Public Schools.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 41, § 44, amended. The first and 2nd paragraphs of section 44 of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 1 of chapter 63 of the public laws of 1955, are amended to read as follows:

'In the public schools of the State only those children who are or will become 6 years of age on or before ~~October 15th~~ **September 1st** of the school year shall be admitted to grade one, **except that those who, after qualified pre-school tests show sufficient mental and physical maturity, shall be accepted at a younger age.**

In schools which offer a one-year childhood education program ~~prior to grade one of kindergarten~~, only those children who will be 5 years of age on or before ~~October 15th~~ **September first** of the school year shall be admitted, **except that those who, after qualified pre-school tests, show sufficient mental and physical maturity, shall be accepted at a younger age. Only teachers who have had a certified course in kindergarten methods shall teach 5-year-olds.'**

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 41, § 237-C, sub-§§ I and III, amended. Subsections I and III of section 237-C of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 364 of the public laws of 1957 and as repealed and replaced by section 1 of chapter 443 of the public laws of 1957, are amended to read as follows:

'I. Scope. The scope of the school program shall include ~~pre-primary or kindergarten education for 5-year old children and all grades through grade 12~~ **as prescribed in section 44;**

III. Employ and pay teachers. School administrative units shall:

A. Pay teachers in accordance with the minimum salary law;

B. Employ at least one teacher for each 30 elementary school pupils in average daily membership except in the ~~pre-primary or~~ kindergarten where the ratio shall not exceed one teacher to 60 25 pupils and at least one teacher for each 25 high school pupils this kindergarten teacher to have had a certified course in kindergarten methods, as prescribed in section 44.'