

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1307

H. P. 899

House of Representatives, February 13, 1963

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Mendes of Topsham.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-THREE

AN ACT Providing for State Support of Education Foundation Program and the Financing Thereof.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 16, § 77-C, amended. Section 77-C of chapter 16 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by chapter 128 of the public laws of 1955, and as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 77-C. Distribution of state tax to municipalities and apportionment thereof. The Treasurer of State, in his said warrants, shall require the said mayor and aldermen, selectmen or assessors, respectively, to pay or to issue their several warrants requiring the collectors of their several municipalities to collect and pay to the ~~treasurer of their respective municipalities~~ **Treasurer of State** the sums against said municipalities required by ~~the provisions of~~ sections 77-A to 77-D.

The sums so collected shall be held by the Treasurer of State in the School Operating Fund, as provided under chapter 41, section 235-A, and disbursed under chapter 41, section 237-E, to the school administrative units of the State, cities, towns, plantations and School Administrative Districts.

The sum so collected in each municipality shall be paid when collected to the treasurer thereof to be by him disbursed for necessary expenses of local government as determined or appropriated by the legislative body of such municipality for the public welfare within the purposes specified in chapter 90-A, which chapter sets forth those purposes for the public welfare for which municipalities are themselves authorized to raise money by taxation.

The sum so collected from each township and each lot or parcel of land not included in any township in the State shall be disbursed by the Treasurer of State to each township and each lot or parcel of land not included in any township which is assessed for school or highway purposes in an amount not to exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ of the amount assessed for school and highway purposes and shall be credited to such purposes.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 41, § 235-A, additional. Chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 235-A, to read as follows:

'**Sec. 235-A. School Operating Fund.** The Treasurer of State shall keep a separate account of moneys received from the state property tax and of all other moneys appropriated for school subsidy purposes. Such sum may be invested in short term obligations of the Federal Government and the interest added to the fund. All subsidies payable under section 237-E shall be paid from the School Operating Fund.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 41, § 237-E, repealed and replaced. Section 237-E of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 364 of the public laws of 1957 and as amended, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'**Sec. 237-E. State support of foundation program.** On the basis of information available in the office of the Commissioner of Education on September 1st for the 2 years next preceding the biennial convening of the Legislature, as provided in returns of educational statistics required by him, the commissioner shall apportion subsidies to the school administrative units of the State, cities, towns, plantations and School Administrative Districts, for each of the next 2 years according to the following plan:

Each administrative unit that is meeting the foundation program shall receive a subsidy of \$220 per pupil based on the average daily membership in the unit during the preceding school year.

Each administrative unit that is not meeting the foundation program shall receive a subsidy of \$170 per pupil based on the average daily membership in the unit during the preceding school year, plus \$50 per pupil if the town is transporting them across town lines to secondary schools.'

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 41, §§ 237-G and 237-H, repealed. Sections 237-G and 237-H of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 364 of the public laws of 1957 and as amended, are repealed.