

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1041

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S. P. 307

In Senate, February 9, 1965

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Secretary

Presented by Senator Snow of Cumberland.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-FIVE

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AN ACT Relating to Uniform Local Effort for Payment of School Subsidies.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 3518, amended.** Section 3518 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding at the end the following:

‘On the basis of information available in the office of the commissioner 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 construction subsidies to the school administrative units of the State for each of the next 2 years according to the following plan:

The several administrative units, cities, towns, plantations and School Administrative Districts, shall be divided into 21 classifications according to their valuations per resident school child being educated at public expense. The valuation shall be as determined by the Board of Equalization in the statement filed by it, as provided in Title 36, section 381, and the number of children shall be the average of the last 2 enrollment reports of resident pupils being educated at public expense on April 1st annually. Such computation shall be subject to correction in accordance with the final statement filed by the Board of Equalization on December 1st.

For each eligible unit the construction subsidy allocation thereafter shall be the applicable percentage of the construction costs as defined in this section obtained from Table II below.

TABLE II

Class	State Valuation per Resident Pupil	Percentage of State Support of Foundation Program
1	\$ 3,000 and under	66%
2	3,001 — 3,500	64
3	3,501 — 4,000	62
4	4,001 — 4,500	60
5	4,501 — 5,000	58
6	5,001 — 5,500	55
7	5,501 — 6,000	52
8	6,001 — 6,500	49
9	6,501 — 7,000	46
10	7,001 — 7,500	44
11	7,501 — 8,000	41
12	8,001 — 8,500	38
13	8,501 — 9,000	36
14	9,001 — 9,500	34
15	9,501 — 10,000	32
16	10,001 — 10,500	30
17	10,501 — 11,000	28
18	11,001 — 11,500	26
19	11,501 — 12,000	24
20	12,001 — 12,500	21
21	12,501 and over	18'

**Sec. 2. R. S., T. 20, § 3721, amended.** The first paragraph of section 3721 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

'To help equalize educational opportunity and guarantee a minimum program of education for all children throughout the State there is established a foundation program or level of education, expressed in terms of a minimum dollar cost per pupil, in which the State will participate ~~financially on a percentage basis~~ rendering greater financial assistance to the less able administrative units.'

**Sec. 3. R. S., T. 20, § 3722, amended.** The first sentence of the 2nd paragraph of section 3722 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

'The average of the 2 preceding years' **adjusted** resident average daily membership of the pupils attending school in the unit shall be multiplied by the applicable dollar allowance in Table I below.'

**Sec. 4. R. S., T. 20, § 3722, amended.** Table I and its footnotes of section 3722 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof.

'TABLE I

The per pupil allowance used in computing the foundation program shall be

**\$255.** Average daily membership adjustments shall be made if the elementary school enrolls fewer than 26 pupils.

	Multiply average daily membership by
If the elementary school enrolls from 1 to 10 pupils	1.50
11 to 15 pupils	1.40
16 to 20 pupils	1.33
21 to 25 pupils	1.27

The average daily membership shall be further adjusted as follows before multiplying by the fixed per pupil allowance. The average daily membership in grades subprimary through 6 shall be multiplied by one, the average daily membership in grades 7 and 8 shall be multiplied by 1.2, and the average daily membership in grades 9 through 12 shall be multiplied by 1.4. The elementary and the adjusted junior high average daily memberships thus obtained shall be added together before multiplying by the per pupil allowance.

To obtain resident average daily memberships for grades 7 and 8 for each unit the board is authorized for the 1965 and 1966 payments to determine the percentage of pupils in grades 7 and 8 as of April 1, 1964 and apply the same percentage to the elementary resident average daily membership reported July 1, 1963 and July 1, 1964 for each unit.

**Sec. 5. R. S., T. 20, § 3723, amended.** The first 8 paragraphs of section 3723, which includes Table II, of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes are amended to read as follows:

'On the basis of information available in the office of the commissioner 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 for each of the next 2 years according to the following plan, **except that the allocations to administrative units shall be 5% higher in the year 1966 than in the year 1965.**

~~The several administrative units (cities, towns, plantations and School Administrative Districts) shall be divided into 24 classifications according to their valuations per resident school child being educated at public expense. From each unit's foundation program, as defined in sections 3721 and 3722, shall be subtracted the yield of 20 mills times the unit's state valuation. The result shall be the amount of state aid, on the foundation program, that the unit is entitled to receive, provided that no unit shall receive less than 20% state aid on its foundation program. The valuation used shall be as determined by the Board of Equalization in the statement filed by it, as provided in Title 36, section 381. and the number of children shall be the average of the last 2 enrollment reports of resident pupils being educated at public expense on April 1st annually. Such computation~~ **The computation of state aid for each unit shall be subject to correction in accordance with the final statement filed by the Board of Equalization on December 1st.**

~~For each classification, except School Administrative Districts, the~~ **The**

subsidy allocation thereafter shall be the same for each of the 2 years of the biennium and shall be the applicable percentage of the average net foundation program allowance for the preceding 2 years, as defined in section 3722 obtained from Table II below. Subsidy for School Administrative Districts shall be computed in accordance with this section

TABLE II

Class	State Valuation per Resident Pupil	Percentage of State Support of Foundation Program
1	\$ 3,000 and under	66%
2	3,001 — 3,500	64
3	3,501 — 4,000	62
4	4,001 — 4,500	60
5	4,501 — 5,000	58
6	5,001 — 5,500	55
7	5,501 — 6,000	52
8	6,001 — 6,500	49
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19	11,501 — 12,000	24
20	12,001 — 12,500	21
21	12,501 and over	18

Whenever any administrative unit's average net operating cost average elementary or secondary per pupil operating expenditure, not including debt retirement, capital outlay items, transportation or community services in any biennium is less than the amount provided for in the average net foundation program, its state subsidy for the next 2 years will be decreased accordingly, that is, the percentage that the net operating cost is of the net foundation program allowance will be applied to that unit's preliminary allotment to determine the final subsidy foundation program allowances as provided in Table I computed by using the adjusted total average daily membership, the average elementary or secondary per pupil operating expenditures shall be used in lieu of the foundation program allowances in determining the total foundation program of the unit.

When a School Administrative District is formed during the biennium, following January 1st of a legislative year, the subsidy for the School Administrative District during that biennium shall be computed as follows:

The subsidy for a newly formed School Administrative District shall be the

sum of the amounts that the towns would have received plus a 10% bonus. During the next succeeding biennium a School Administrative District, regardless of the previous ~~net operating costs elementary or secondary per pupil expenditure~~ of the subordinate administrative units, shall receive its subsidy based on the ~~average net~~ foundation program allowance in Table I ~~of the district~~ plus the additional bonus as provided in section 3456.

Any administrative unit in which the average ~~net operating cost elementary or secondary per pupil expenditure~~ in any biennium exceeds the amount of the ~~average net~~ foundation program allowance in Table I shall be entitled to an additional subsidy allocation on that part of its average ~~net operating cost per pupil expenditure~~ which exceeds its ~~net~~ foundation program allowance, computed by multiplying the amount that the average ~~net operating cost elementary or secondary per pupil expenditure~~ exceeds its ~~net~~ foundation program allowance by ~~10% of the percentage to which said administrative unit is entitled to receive in Table II~~ 4%. The result shall be multiplied by the resident elementary or secondary adjusted average daily membership and added to the allotment.'