

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1691

H. P. 1223

House of Representatives, January 17, 1966

The Committee on Education suggested.

JEROME G. PLANTE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. White of Guilford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-SIX

**AN ACT Relating to Secondary School Attendance of Children Committed to
Stevens Training Center.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment of the Legislature unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, girls committed to the Stevens Training Center in some instances have been unable to obtain needed courses at the secondary school maintained within SAD #16; and

Whereas, girls committed to the Stevens Training Center attending said secondary school have been ridiculed and set apart as "Stevens Girls" by other students, the status of such girls as "Stevens Girls" becoming readily known due to the small student body, resulting in the girls being emotionally affected, and further resulting in dropouts and instances of escape from the center; and

Whereas, the Superintendent of the Stevens Training Center determining it to be in the best interests of the girls has inadvertently gone beyond the authority granted by the existing statute, and has succeeded in enrolling 8 girls in a secondary school outside SAD #16; and

Whereas, such school offers courses not available in the secondary school maintained within SAD #16 and such girls, due to the large enrollment have become integrated into the student body without incurring the stigma of being singled out as "Stevens Girls," all resulting in a high degree of scholastic achievement and emotional stability in each case; and

Whereas, a substantial saving in tuition costs can be realized through such enrollment; and

Whereas, the advantages available through enrollment outside SAD #16 are of the utmost importance to the Stevens Training Center program, it being contemplated that the center will have a continuing need for such outside enrollment; and

Whereas, the following Act is vitally necessary to assist the Stevens Training Center in its rehabilitation of girls committed thereto; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

R. S., T. 15, § 2716, amended. The last paragraph of section 2716 of Title 15 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 9 of the public laws of 1965, is further amended to read as follows:

'At the discretion of the superintendent, any such female child deemed to be eligible shall be granted entrance into the secondary school maintained within School Administrative District #16 **or into a secondary school maintained by the Augusta superintending school committee** under the same conditions as pupils residing in administrative units which do not maintain a standard secondary school, as provided in Title 20, section 1291, except the tuition for such child shall be paid by said superintendent from the appropriation to the said center and shall be in an amount not exceeding the receiving school's average cost per pupil for the current fiscal year to be determined as provided by Title 20, section 1292.'

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.