

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 486

H. P. 377

House of Representatives, January 29, 1969

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

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Millett of Dixmont.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-NINE

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**AN ACT** Requiring Childhood Education Programs for Five-year-olds.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 859, amended.** The 2nd paragraph of section 859 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as last amended by section 16 of chapter 494 of the public laws of 1967, is further amended to read as follows:

~~In schools which offer~~ **All public schools of the State shall offer** a one-year childhood education program prior to grade one **and** only those children who will be 5 years of age on or before October 15th of the school year shall be admitted.

**Sec. 2. Effective date.** This Act shall become effective July 1, 1971.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Kindergarten programs are required in school administrative districts but are not mandatory in other units. Approximately 90% of all pupils eligible for kindergarten are now enrolled in a school program. This Act would make this opportunity available for all children.