

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1498

H. P. 1174

House of Representatives May 7, 1969

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

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Snow of Caribou.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-NINE

AN ACT Establishing a State-Municipal Government Revenue Sharing Program.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 3454, amended. The first sentence of section 3454 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 35 of chapter 513 of the public laws of 1965, is further amended to read as follows:

Whenever the information required for the purposes of this chapter, chapters 117, 207, 209 and 211 and ~~511~~, and sections 522, 1202 and 3457 is not available because of the failure of the administrative unit, through its officers, to make the returns required by law, or because of the loss or destruction of the school records of an administrative unit, the commissioner may use as a basis for apportionment numbers on which the apportionment for said administrative unit was made for the preceding year less 10%.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 20, § 3456, repealed. Section 3456 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is repealed.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 20, c. 511, repealed. Chapter 511 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is repealed.

Sec. 4. R. S., T. 30, § 5055, additional. Title 30 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 5055 to read as follows:

§ 5055. Local government fund

1. Purpose. To strengthen the state-municipal fiscal relationship, to aid all municipal services, to allocate state resources on a more equitable and meaningful basis and to stabilize the municipal tax burden on property, the Legislature establishes a local government fund.

2. Definitions.

A. Population. "Population" shall mean population as determined by the Federal Decennial Census or by the Department of Health and Welfare, whichever determination is later.

B. State valuation. "State valuation" shall mean that valuation certified biennially by the Board of Equalization to the Secretary of State.

C. Property taxes raised. "Property taxes raised" shall mean the net total real and personal property taxes assessed in a calendar year, including supplemental assessments and abatements.

3. Sharing the local government fund. All municipalities shall have a bloc grant factor. All municipalities shall share in the local government fund in proportion to their bloc grant factors.

4. Bloc grant factor. The bloc grant factor for any municipality shall be computed as follows:

Bloc Grant Factor (for a municipality) =

$$\frac{\text{Population of a municipality}}{\text{Total Population of all municipalities}} \times \left\{ \frac{\text{Municipal Property Taxes}}{\text{Total State property taxes}} \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \frac{\text{Municipal State Valuation}}{\text{Total State Valuation}} \right\}$$

5. Treasurer of State. The Treasurer of State shall compute, as of January 1st of each year and based upon the most recent official data, a bloc grant factor for each and every municipality.

The Treasurer of State shall publish by February 1st a complete list of the following:

- A. Bloc grant factors;
- B. Percentages of the local government fund to be received by each municipality;
- C. Moneys to be received based upon bloc grant factors; and
- D. Moneys to be received under subsection 6.

The list shall be published in the state paper and mailed to the municipal officers of all municipalities. If the local government fund has not been appropriated, then paragraphs C and D shall be published separately and as soon as possible.

The payments to any municipality under this section shall be made in 4 equal instalments due on the first day of the following months: July, October, January and April.

6. Certain municipalities unaffected. Where any municipality's dollar share of the local government fund is less than the amount that municipality received as a school subsidy in 1968, that municipality shall receive an addi-

tional amount equal to the difference. The Legislature shall make a separate appropriation to the local government fund for this purpose.

Sec. 5. R. S., T. 36, § 714, additional. Title 36 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 714 to read as follows :

§ 714. Bloc grant

The assessors shall deduct from the total amount required to be assessed an amount equal to the moneys to be received from the local government fund in the proper municipal fiscal year.