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BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Defining Secondary Schools.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 2356-B, amended. The first sentence of section 2356-B of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 3 of chapter 440 of the public laws of 1965, is amended to read as follows:

When any administrative unit has constructed, subsequent to September 3, 1965, an approved facility to be used as a regional technical and vocational center according to an approved plan as provided in section 2356-A, and has adequately equipped it, for the conduct of not less than 5 approved full-time courses of technical or vocational education, exclusive of, or in addition to, part-time cooperative training programs, and shall maintain and operate a regional technical and vocational center therein, or shall maintain and operate such a regional technical and vocational center in a facility already available which is approved by the State Board of Education for the maintenance and operation of such a center, the Commissioner of Education shall make the following grants from any funds appropriated available for these purposes, in the apportionment of which special funds which are or may become available to the State Board of Education for these purposes from federal grants or from other sources may be used in part payment of, but shall not be in addition to, grants authorized by this section:

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 20, § 2356-B, sub-§ 1, amended. The 2nd paragraph of subsection 1 of section 2356-B of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 3 of chapter 440 of the public laws of 1965 and as amended, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

As used in this section, cost of construction shall consist of the same districts in accordance with sections 3457, 3458, 3459 and the grants provided in this section shall be paid at such times and in such installments as are provided for in sections 3457, 3458, 3459 or 3460. The commissioner may authorize grants for construction assistance provided by this section, including grants for equipping or for the completing of the equipping of a facility already available, which shall be in lieu of any construction assistance for the same facility made or authorized under sections 3457, 3458 and 3459, and shall be made only on the basis of information available in the office of the commissioner on November 1st and May 1st of each year covering expenditures made by the administrative unit as reported by its superintendent of schools to the commissioner on forms which he shall provide for the purpose or in the alternative as provided by section 3460.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 20, § 2356-B, sub-§ 1, amended. The 3rd paragraph of subsection 1 of section 2356-B of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 3 of chapter 440 of the public laws of 1965, is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

This paragraph shall apply only if state payments are made in accordance with sections 3457, 3458 and 3459.

Sec. 4. R. S., T. 20, § 2356-H, amended. Section 2356-H of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 3 of chapter 440 of the public laws of 1965, is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

This section shall not apply to construction grants made under section 3460.

Sec. 5. R. S., T. 20, § 3452, amended. The first paragraph of section 3452 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 14 of chapter 425 of the public laws of 1967, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

For the purposes of this chapter, chapters 117, 207, 209, 211 and 511, and sections 522, 1292, 2356-A to 2356-H and 3457 to 3460, the following terms are defined:

Sec. 6. R. S., T. 20, § 3452, sub-§ 5, amended. Subsection 5 of section 3452 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 19 of chapter 425 of the public laws of 1967, is further amended to read as follows:

5. Secondary school. "Secondary school" shall be understood to include that part of the school organization of a town offering a program of studies as included in secondary schools or any part thereof as defined by section 1281 and as arranged for by the establishment and maintenance of a free high school, a union high school or by contract with the school committee of an adjoining town or with the trustees of an academy within the town or in an adjoining town as provided for by section 1289 and any regional technical and vocational center approved by the State Board of Education.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

Presently the statute authorizes state construction aid for regional technical and vocational centers only by the old installment payment method. This bill will make such centers secondary schools, even though they give courses at the post secondary level thus enabling the State to use bond issue funds and make lump sum payments.