MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 763

S. P. 257 In Senate, February 12, 1971 Referred to Committee on Education. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Chick of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Geographically Isolated Small High Schools.

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

- Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 1281, sub-§ 10, amended. Subsection 10 of section 1281 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 335 of the public laws of 1967, is amended to read as follows:
- 10. Size. Any public school enrolling fewer than 100 pupils may be approved by the State Board of Education on an emergency or continuing basis only after the school committee or board of directors have presented in detail reasons for such emergency approval.
- Sec. 2. R. S., T. 20, § 3735, additional. Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 3735, to read as follows:

§ 3735. Geographically isolated high schools

In addition to the aid provided in other sections of this chapter, any unit operating a high school with fewer than 300 pupils in an area which has been determined by the board as geographically isolated shall be subsidized for its high school operation by an additional amount. Expenditures made in excess of the state average per pupil cost for secondary schools shall be subsidized at the same percentage rate that is applicable for that unit under the general purpose aid formula. At the close of each school year, each unit operating as an isolated secondary school shall be reimbursed an appropriate amount as computed above.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this Act is to provide additional aid for the very small high schools where per pupil expenditures are considerably above state average because of its geographic isolation and to allow the state board to approve continued operation for a period of years.