

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 836

H. P. 475

House of Representatives, February 11, 1971

Speaker laid before the House and on motion of Mr. Susi of Pittsfield referred to Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Haskell of Houlton.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-ONE

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**AN ACT Appropriating Funds for Educational Costs for Maine Students in  
Private Schools of Higher Education.**

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, c. 306, additional. Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 306, to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 306**

**EDUCATIONAL GRANT FUND**

§ 2322. Purpose

There is established an Educational Grant Fund to be administered by the Department of Education, the proceeds of which shall be used to defray the cost of education of young men and women who are residents of the State and who are enrolled in a private, nonprofit, 4-year degree granting college or university located within the State of Maine or who have been accepted for admission to such an institution.

§ 2323. Educational Grant Fund

The Educational Grant Fund shall be used by the Department of Education as a nonlapsing revolving fund for carrying out this chapter. The fund shall initially be in the sum of \$2,000,000. To this sum shall be charged all educational grants and any necessary expenses incurred by the Department of Education in administering the terms of this chapter. To this sum shall be credited all amounts received by the Department of Education under this chapter.

§ 2324. Duties of the Department of Education

The Department of Education of the State of Maine, acting through its commissioner and the duly qualified personnel in said department, shall distribute funds and carry out the necessary administrative duties.

§ 2325. Eligibility for grant

Any student who has been a resident of this State for at least 12 months immediately prior to application and who has been accepted for study on a full-time basis at any post-secondary, private, 4-year degree granting college or university located in this State, shall be eligible for a grant under this chapter.

§ 2326. Award and amount of grants

Any eligible student may receive a grant not to exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the annual amount of state subsidy per student at the University of Maine. The annual amount of state subsidy per student at the University of Maine shall be computed by the Department of Education annually.

Sums so awarded shall be disbursed by the accepting institution on behalf of the student for tuition, fees, books, board or any legitimate educational expense. The awarding of grants under this section shall be made for study beginning in the 2nd semester of 1971-72 and succeeding years.

1. Religious study. No grant shall be made under this chapter to any student who is enrolled in a course of study leading to a degree in theology, divinity or religious education or who is a religious aspirant.

2. Civil Rights Act. No student shall be eligible for financial aid under the terms of this chapter who seeks enrollment, or is currently enrolled, in an institution of higher education, located within this State which has failed to file with the State Board of Education, a certificate of assurance of compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P. L. 88-352) and amendments thereto.

§ 2327. Rules and regulations

The Commissioner of Education shall prescribe rules and regulations to carry out this chapter.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Education to carry out the purposes of this Act the sum of \$3,016,200. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1971-72	1972-73
EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF		
Personal Services	(2) \$ 6,700	(2) \$ 8,500
All Other	1,000,000	2,000,000
Capital Expenditures	1,000	—
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	\$1,007,700	\$2,008,500

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to ensure that the total college capacity of Maine is fully utilized and to encourage the growth of private colleges as a more economical method of increasing the State's college capacity than total reliance on public higher education.