

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 896

H. P. 667

House of Representatives, February 17, 1971

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

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Ault of Wayne.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT to Require Public School Education of Handicapped Children.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 911, amended. The 2nd sentence of section 911 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 272 of the public laws of 1965, is amended to read as follows:

The first sentence of this section shall not apply to a child who has been graduated from high school before his 17th anniversary ~~or to a child with subnormal mental capacity or a child who has completed the grades of the elementary school prior to September 7, 1965~~

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 20, § 3111, amended. Section 3111 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by sections 1 and 2 of chapter 417 of the public laws of 1969, is further amended to read as follows:

§ 3111. Purpose

It is declared to be the policy of the State to provide ~~within practical limits~~ equal educational opportunities for all children in Maine able to benefit from an instructional program approved by the state board. The purpose of this chapter is to provide educational facilities, services and equipment for all handicapped or exceptional children below ~~or~~ 20 years of age who cannot be adequately taught with safety and benefit in the regular public school classes of normal children or who can attend regular classes beneficially if special services are provided.

~~Each administrative unit is authorized to operate a program for trainable children, the programs in such classes to be approved by the State Board of Education under such rules and regulations as the board may prescribe~~

School boards of any school administrative units that maintain a recognized school, whether operating under the general law or under a special charter, may until July 1, 1975, and shall thereafter, subject to any limitations hereinafter specified, establish and maintain or provide such special educational facilities, services and equipment as may be needed for handicapped or exceptional children as defined in section 3112 who are residents of their school administrative unit and such children, residents of other school administrative units as may be authorized by this chapter.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 20, § 3112, sub-§ 3, additional. Section 3112 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new subsection 3 to read as follows:

3. Special educational facilities, services and equipment. "Special educational facilities, services and equipment" shall be special schools, special classes, special housing, special instruction, special reader service, maintenance, instructional material, speech therapy, professional consultant services, psychological services, school social worker services, special administrative services, salaries of all required special personnel, and other special education services required by the child because of his disability if such services are approved by the commissioner and the child is eligible therefor under this chapter.

Sec. 4. Effective date. Section 1 of this Act shall become effective July 1, 1975.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the title.