

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 255

S. P. 110

In Senate, January 18, 1973

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Cyr of Aroostook.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

**AN ACT to Authorize Eleven New Regions and Central Aroostook County
Region for Vocational Education.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, there is an urgent need for vocational education in these regions of the state; and

Whereas, the concept of these regional programs will conserve the resources of the local and state governments; and

Whereas, existing school facilities could be more adequately used; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

R. S., T. 20, § 2356-A, sub-§ 5, additional. Section 2356-A of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended by adding a new subsection 5, to read as follows:

5. Vocational regions. There are created 11 new regions for vocational education whose boundaries are set forth in this subsection. The 11 new vocational regions are created to deliver vocational education to their respective areas in accordance with sections 2356-B to 2356-H. The vocational regions shall be administered by a cooperative board as defined in section 309. Notwithstanding any other provision of section 309, the size of the coopera-

tive board, the number to serve on the cooperative board, and the membership for each unit and the method of sharing costs shall be determined by a majority vote of the school committees or board of directors, or both, of the various units at a joint meeting called for this purpose by the commissioner. The details of establishing the cooperative board and the method of sharing costs shall be determined by a majority vote of the board members present and voting at the meeting which has been called by the commissioner. Decisions reached on the method of sharing costs and the representation on the cooperative board may be appealed to the State Board of Education by any administrative unit within the region, if the school committee or the board of directors of that unit believes that the representation on the cooperative board or the method of sharing costs is unfair to the local administrative unit. The State Board of Education shall make a determination on the disposition of the appeal. The board's decision shall be final and binding upon the administrative units within the vocational region. The cooperative boards of the 11 new regions for vocational education as set forth in this subsection shall have all the rights and duties that are set forth in sections 309, 309-A and 309-B. The new vocational regions created may adopt agreements by using the procedures set forth in section 309, provided that no portion of the agreement is in conflict with this section. The boundaries of the 11 regions shall not be changed except by legislative action.

If the cooperative board deems it advisable to issue bonds or notes and the amount of the issue does not exceed 1% of the last preceding state valuation of all the participating towns in the region, the board may proceed as follows: When the cooperative board of the region determines that bonds or notes for capital outlay purposes shall be issued in an amount not to exceed 1% of the total of the last preceding state valuation of all the participating units, they shall pass a resolution to that effect, setting forth the amount of the proposal and the purpose or purposes for which the proceeds will be used. The 1% limit shall apply to only the local share of the proposed project.

The secretary of the board shall, within 5 days of the date of the passage of said resolution, cause attested copies of the resolution to be posted in 3 public and conspicuous places within each of the municipalities within the region, and make a return of his posting stating the time and place thereof, which return shall be kept with the records of the region, and a copy of the return shall be mailed to each of the municipal officers of each town within the region. If, within 35 days of the date of the passage of the resolution, sufficient petitions are filed with the secretary of the board requesting a vote of the region to approve or disapprove the issuance of the bonds or notes, the secretary shall immediately notify the board and they shall call a regional meeting for said purpose. To be sufficient to require the calling of a regional meeting, the petitions must contain the signatures of at least 10% of the residents in the region eligible to vote on the date that the resolution was adopted, as shown by the municipal voting lists.

Region 1. NORTHERN AROOSTOOK COUNTY. Units located in this area are: Madawaska; S.A.D. #10—Allagash; S.A.D. #24—Van Buren, Cyr Pt., Grand Isle and Hamlin Pt.; S.A.D. #27—Eagle Lake, Fort Kent, New

Canada Plt., St. Francis Plt., St. John Plt., Wallagrass Plt. and Winterville Plt., S.A.D. #33—Frenchville and St. Agatha.

Region 2. SOUTHERN AROOSTOOK COUNTY. Units located in this area are: Bancroft; Benedicta; Crystal; Dyer Brook; Hersey; Island Falls; Linneus; Ludlow; Merrill; Moro Plt.; New Limerick; Oakfield; Orient; Smyrna; S.A.D. #14—Danforth and Weston; S.A.D. #25—Mt. Chase Plt., Patten, Sherman and Stacyville; S.A.D. #29—Hammond Plt., Houlton, Littleton and Monticello; S.A.D. #70—Amity, Cary Plt., Haynesville and Hodgdon.

Region 3. NORTHERN PENOBSCOT COUNTY. Units located in this area are: Carroll Plt.; Codyville; East Millinocket; Glenwood Plt.; Lakeville Plt.; Macwahoc Plt.; Medway; Millinocket; Reed Plt.; Topsfield; Vanceboro; Woodville; S.A.D. #30—Lee, Prentiss Plt., Springfield, Webster Plt., and Winn; S.A.D. #31—Burlington, Edinburg, Enfield, Howland, Lowell, Maxfield, Passadumkeag and Seboeis Plt.; S.A.D. #67—Chester, Lincoln and Mattawamkeag.

Region 4. SOUTHERN PENOBSCOT COUNTY. Units located in this area are: Alton; Amherst; Aurora; Bangor; Bradley; Brewer; Glenburn; Grand Falls Plt.; Great Pond Plt.; Greenbush; Greenfield; Hermon; Milford; Old Town; Orono; Orrington; Osborn Plt.; Veazie; S.A.D. #22—Hampden, Newburgh and Winterport; S.A.D. #23—Carmel and Levant; S.A.D. #38—Dixmont and Etna; S.A.D. #63—Clifton, Eddington and Holden; S.A.D. #64—Bradford, Corinth, Hudson, Kenduskeag and Stetson.

Region 5. HANCOCK COUNTY. Units located in this area are: Bar Harbor; Blue Hill; Bucksport; Castine; Cranberry Isles; Dedham; Ellsworth; Franklin; Gouldsboro; Hancock; Lamoine; Long Island Plt.; Mariaville; Mt. Desert; Orland; Otis; Penobscot; Sorrento; Southwest Harbor; Steuben; Sullivan; Surry; Tremont; Trenton; Winter Harbor; S.A.D. #18—Prospect and Verona; S.A.D. #26—Eastbrook and Waltham; S.A.D. #73—Brooklin, Brooksville, Deer Isle, Sedgwick and Stonington; S.A.D. #76—Swan's Island.

Region 6. WASHINGTON COUNTY. Units located in this area are: Alexander; Baileyville; Baring Plt.; Beals; Beddington; Calais; Centerville; Charlotte; Cooper; Crawford; Deblois; Dennysville; Eastport; Grand Lake Stream Plt.; Jonesboro; Jonesport; Machias; Marshfield; Meddybemps; Northfield; No. 14 Plt.; No. 21 Plt.; Pembroke; Perry; Princeton; Robbinston; Roque Bluffs; Talmadge; Waite; Wesley; Whitneyville; S.A.D. #37—Addison, Cherryfield, Columbia, Columbia Falls, Harrington and Milbridge; S.A.D. #19—Lubec; S.A.D. #77—Cutler, East Machias, Machiasport and Whiting.

Region 7. WALDO COUNTY. Units located in this area are: S.A.D. #3—Brooks, Freedom, Jackson, Knox, Liberty, Monroe, Montville, Thorndike, Troy, Unity and Waldo; S.A.D. #34—Belfast, Belmont, Morrill, Northport, Searsmont and Swanville; S.A.D. #56—Frankfort, Searsport and Stockton Springs.

Region 8. KNOX COUNTY. Units located in this area are: Appleton; Hope; Islesboro; Lincolnville; S.A.D. #5—Owl's Head, Rockland and South

Thomaston; S.A.D. #7—North Haven; S.A.D. #8—Vinalhaven; S.A.D. #28—Camden and Rockport; S.A.D. #40—Friendship, Union, Waldoboro, Warren and Washington; S.A.D. #50—Cushing, St. George and Thomaston.

Region 9. **NORTHERN OXFORD COUNTY.** Units located in this area are: Hanover; Peru; Rumford; S.A.D. #21—Canton, Carthage and Dixfield; S.A.D. #43—Byron, Mexico and Roxbury; S.A.D. #44—Andover, Bethel, Greenwood, Newry and Woodstock.

Region 10. **EASTERN CUMBERLAND-SAGADAHOC COUNTY.** Units located in this area are: Brunswick; Freeport; S.A.D. #62—Pownal; S.A.D. #75—Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Harpswell and Topsham. This region will coordinate programs and activities with the Regional Technical and Vocational Center at Bath.

Region 11. **SOUTHERN OXFORD COUNTY.** Units located in this area are: S.A.D. #17—Harrison, Hebron, Norway, Otisfield, Oxford, Paris, Waterford and West Paris; S.A.D. #39—Buckfield, Hartford and Sumner. This region will coordinate programs and activities with the Regional Technical and Vocational Center at Bridgton.

These new regions for vocational education, as designated, agree to appropriate the necessary local funds to pay the operating and construction costs for the regional programs for vocational education as may be required by sections 2356-A to 2356-H.

CENTRAL AROOSTOOK COUNTY. High schools in this area are located at: Ashland, Caribou, Fort Fairfield, Limestone, Mars Hill, Presque Isle and Washburn. These high schools in the Central Aroostook County Region will be served by regional technical and vocational centers located in Presque Isle and Caribou. These 2 regional centers shall be governed by their respective school boards but shall have an advisory committee responsible for coordinating vocational education for the Central Aroostook County Region. Membership on the advisory committee shall consist of the superintendents of schools of the participating towns with high schools and one board member chosen from each school committee or board of directors by its membership. The advisory committee shall meet quarterly and also will be responsible for preparing and submitting an annual report on vocational education to the State Board of Education and to each unit within the region.

Transportation of students shall be provided by each administrative unit to all regional technical and vocational centers, or regions and satellite programs, or both, that are in operation. Transportation shall not be provided outside the designated region, center or satellite unless approved by the commissioner.

The State Board of Education shall approve vocational programs in the 11 new regions as funding becomes available based upon plans submitted by the cooperative boards of the eleven new vocational regions.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill would authorize the State Board of Education to approve programs in 11 new regions of the State and Central Aroostook County for vocational education, would enable school systems to offer expanded vocational education programs by using available facilities where possible in said regions, and would assure the transportation of vocational students to and from all regional centers and/or regions and satellite programs that are in operation.