

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1205

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S. P. 400

In Senate, March 6, 1973

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Katz of Kennebec.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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AN ACT to Provide Maine Students with Benefits of Environmental  
Education.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 1233, additional. Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 1233 to read as follows:

§ 1233. Environmental education

1. Purpose and intent. The Legislature finds and declares that in order to better prepare present and future generations to meet the challenges arising from man's relationship to his environment, it is desirable that all elementary and secondary schools of Maine provide instruction in environmental education. It is the purpose of this section to create a well-informed citizenry capable of bequeathing a healthy world to future generations. The Legislature declares that environmental education shall include, but shall not be limited to instruction on the effects of man's interference with ecological systems, human consumption, demographic pressures, populations trends, and the resulting social and environmental consequences.

In addition, the Legislature declares it to be in the public interest, for the public benefit and for the good order of the people of the State that the Department of Educational and Cultural Services and the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall promote the instruction of environmental education and that a position within the Department of Educational and Cultural Services shall be created committed exclusively to carrying out the purposes of this section.

2. Director of Environmental Education. The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall employ a State Director of Environmental

Education within the Department of Educational and Cultural Services and shall provide necessary supportive services to carry out the purposes of this section. The Director of Environmental Education shall have advanced graduate training and teaching experience in environmental studies and shall have broad knowledge of Maine's natural and human environmental. The Director of Environmental Education shall assist the school systems in Maine in developing and maintaining environmental education programs.

**Sec. 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Educational and Cultural Services the sum of \$75,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown is as follows:

	1973-74	1974-75
EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF		
State Director of Environmental Education		
Personal Services	(2) \$20,000	(2) \$20,000
All Other	17,500	17,500
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	\$37,500	\$37,500

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this legislation is specifically stated within the bill.