

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2047

S. P. 685

In Senate, June 21, 1973

Approved by a Majority of the Committee on Reference of Bills pursuant to Joint Rule No. 10. Referred to the Committee on Education. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Mr. Clifford of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT to Provide a Subsidy to Communities with Private
School Enrollments.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 3711, amended. Section 3711 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new paragraph at the end to read as follows:

It is further declared that it is the intent of the Legislature to reduce the education program costs in the private schools of this State by reducing such costs to the extent and in the manner permitted by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of this State.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 20, § 3713, sub-§ 10 additional. Section 3713 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new subsection 10 to read as follows:

10. Notwithstanding any of the other provisions of this chapter, the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services is authorized to directly reimburse any private elementary or secondary school authorized by the said commissioner for attendance or tuition purposes for expenses incurred in the purchase of educational supplies or in relation to instruction.

Supplies and expenses for which reimbursement is authorized shall include textbooks, school library books, periodicals and newspapers, audiovisual materials, teaching supplies, miscellaneous supplies for instruction, travel expenses for instruction and miscellaneous expenses for instruction, all of which items are to be limited to their definitions as included in the handbook, Fi-

nancial Accounting for Local and State School Systems, published by the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare. In addition reimbursement shall be limited to those supplies purchased and expenses incurred in connection with the course of study prescribed by the commissioner to be followed in all public and private schools. Reimbursement shall further be limited to an amount per pupil enrolled in the private school not to exceed the average state per pupil expenses incurred. No pupil shall be included in the number enrolled whose expenses are otherwise reimbursed by tuition or other form of payment made by a municipality or the State or who is not a resident of the State of Maine.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 30, § 5104, sub-§ 5, §§ A and B, repealed. Paragraphs A and B of subsection 5 of section 5104 of Title 30 of the Revised Statutes are repealed.

Sec. 4. Appropriation. There is appropriated to the Department of Educational and Cultural Services the sum of \$1,125,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

1974-75

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES,
DEPARTMENT OF

From the General Fund

\$1,125,000

Sec. 5. Effective date. This Act shall become effective January 1, 1974, except for payment of aid to administrative units, which shall become effective July 1, 1974.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this amendment is to provide financial aid to private schools to the extent permitted in the Constitution of this State or of the United States.