

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1257

H. P. 993

House of Representatives, March 20, 1975

On Motion of Mr. Lynch of Livermore Falls, referred to the Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Mitchell of Vassalboro.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Concerning School Entrance Age Requirements.

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

20 MRSA § 859, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 571, §§ 26 and 27, is further amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following new paragraph.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a pupil who has not attained his 6th birthday on or before October 15th, but who has attended kindergarten in another state where he has been promoted to grade 1, may be placed in grade 1 upon being transferred to a school in this State.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Each year the Department of Educational and Cultural Services receives inquiries from local school systems about a child who has moved to Maine from another state that has a later date for entering school. The child had attended kindergarten in the other state during the preceding school year and had been promoted to grade 1. The child moved to Maine during the summer and because of his late November birthday, he cannot be placed in grade 1. His town has no kindergarten, and so the child had to be kept out of school for a year. If the town had had a kindergarten, he would have had to be placed in the kindergarten even though a school system in another state had promoted him to grade 1. It is a hardship on the individual pupil concerned. The amendment would permit the child to attend grade 1 in Maine.