

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
107TH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE AMENDMENT "T" to H.P. 1437, L.D. 1452, Bill,  
"AN ACT to Fund Public School Education."

Amend said Bill in section 8 in subsection 4 by striking out in the last 2 lines (same in L.D.) the words and figures "from Table II in sections 2356-B and 3457" and inserting in place thereof the following: 'from-Table-II-in-sections in section 2356-B and Table II of section 3457'

Further amend said Bill by inserting after section 12 the following:

'Sec. 12-A. 20 MRSA §3710 is enacted to read:  
§3710. School Finance Act of 1975

This Act shall be known as the School Finance Act of 1975.'

Further amend said Bill in section 14 in subsection 1 in the 9th line (7th line in L.D.) by striking out the underlined word and figures "4 and 5" and inserting in place thereof the underlined word and figures '5 and 6'

Further amend said Bill in section 14 by inserting at the end of that part designated subsection 2 the following underlined sentence:

'Beginning with the adjustment for 1976-77 and thereafter, the adjustment shall be limited by this subsection or 6%, whichever is the lesser.'

Further amend said Bill in section 14 by inserting after the 2nd sentence of that part designated subsection 3 the following:

'Beginning with the adjustment for 1976-77 and thereafter, the adjustment shall be limited by this subsection or 6%, whichever is the lesser.'

Further amend said Bill in section 16 in subsection 7-D in the next to the last line (same in L.D.) by inserting after the underlined words "maintain the" the underlined word 'unit's'

Further amend said Bill in section 18 in subsection 11 by striking out all of the last 2 paragraphs and inserting in place thereof the following:

'When an article is submitted to the voters in any administrative unit for the purpose of authorizing the issuance of bonds or notes for major capital outlay purposes, such article shall be in such form as is required by the state board at the time of initial project approval. The article shall set forth the present school debt still outstanding, the local share of debt service under the uniform school tax, the total cost of the project and the state's share of the proposed project under the conditions existing at the time of project approval and such other language as may be required for approval of loans by the bonding authorities. It shall also indicate that the increase in operating costs caused by the new construction amounting to \$ \_\_\_\_\_ shall be borne by local taxes during the first year of operation of the new facility.'

Further amend said Bill in section 20 in subsection 1 in paragraph A in the 2nd line (same in L.D.) by inserting before the underlined word "students" the underlined word 'full-time' and in paragraph B in the 2nd line (same in L.D.) by inserting before the underlined word "students" the underlined word 'full-time'

Further amend said Bill in section 20 in subsection 1 in paragraph C by inserting at the end of the first paragraph the following: 'Reimbursement shall be the commissioner's estimate or the actual expenditure, if lower.'

Further amend said Bill in section 24 in paragraph B in the 14th line (11th line in L.D.) by striking out the word "computed" and inserting in place thereof the following: 'computed anticipated'

Further amend said Bill in section 26 by striking out all of paragraph E and inserting in place thereof the following:

'E. The state board shall adjust state aid, within the limits of its appropriation, whenever a unit documents that it has experienced a resident enrollment increase in excess of 3% between October 1st of the last school year and October 1st of the present school year, when the unit cannot meet its obligations within available funds, and when the increase will result in one or more of the following: Overcrowded conditions, a decline in the quality of educational programs, or substantial added expenses to the unit. The adjustment shall be computed by multiplying the increased number of elementary pupils by the unit's elementary per pupil allocation and by multiplying the increased number of secondary pupils by the unit's secondary per pupil allocation. Such an adjustment shall be prorated, if

necessary, to remain within the available appropriations and shall be added to the already computed allocation of the unit. School committees and boards of directors shall have the authority to expend funds so granted.

Further amend said Bill in section 29 in the 3rd and 4th lines (same in L.D.) by striking out the following: "June 30th each year may" and inserting in place thereof the following: 'June-30th-each-year-may the unit's fiscal year shall' and by adding at the end the following: 'Balances in excess of 10% of the total state and local allocation will be deducted from the state-local allocation for the subsequent year.'

Further amend said Bill in section 30 in subsection 11 by striking out all of the 2nd sentence and inserting in place thereof the following: 'Under this subsection, an administrative unit is authorized to appropriate a maximum of \$125 per pupil per year for the pupils specified in section 3713, subsection 1.' and by striking out all of the 4th sentence and inserting in place thereof the following: 'Said sum shall be paid no later than the last month of the unit's fiscal year.'

Further amend said Bill in section 30 by inserting after the underlined word and figure/<sup>and comma</sup>"section 3713," in the 5th line of that part designated subsection 13 (4th line in L.D.) the underlined word, figure and comma 'subsection 3,'

Further amend said Bill by striking out all of the last underlined paragraph of section 31 and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Notwithstanding any public or private statute to the contrary, each municipality shall annually adopt a school budget for a period to include the next full fiscal year, beginning on July 1st and ending on June 30th. The change to a uniform school budget year shall be accomplished no later than the fiscal year which ends June 30, 1977.'

Further amend said Bill in section 35 by striking out all of the 3rd underlined paragraph of that part designated "§451."

Further amend said Bill in section 35 by striking out all of the 4th underlined paragraph of that part designated "§451." and inserting in place thereof the following:

'For the period July 1, 1974, through June 30, 1975, a uniform school tax rate is computed by dividing 25% of the amount certified by the commissioner for said period by the total 1973 state valuation. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, and thereafter, a uniform school tax rate is computed by dividing 50% of the amount certified by the Legislature for said periods by the total state valuation of all municipalities for the same periods. The rate so determined is to be adjusted upward to the nearest 1/4 mill and shall be applied to the state valuations of each municipality and property in the unorganized territory.'

Further amend said Bill in section 37 by striking out all of the first 2 underlined paragraphs of that part designated "§453." and inserting in place thereof the following:

'The certification made pursuant to section 452 shall require the municipal officers to issue their warrant, requiring the collector of their municipality to collect and pay to the treasurer of their municipality the sums against said municipality required by this subchapter. Monthly, the municipal treasurer shall pay to the Treasurer of State 1/12 of the uniform school tax for the present fiscal year ending June 30th. Said payments shall begin on July 20, 1975 and shall be paid on or before the 20th day of each month. The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall annually, on or before April 15th, notify the municipal officers of each municipality and the officers of each school district of the amount allocated on a monthly basis to that municipality or district pursuant to Title 20, section 3713. When adjustments are made in the subsidy allocation, the commissioner shall notify municipal and school officers of such adjustments. For 1975 only, the notification of allocation shall be made on or before June 15th.'

Further amend said Bill by striking out all of section 44 and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 44. Amended certification. Notwithstanding the 2nd paragraph of section 35 of this Act, the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall amend the certification made on January 31, 1975 to the Director of the Bureau of Property Taxation for public school education costs of 1974-75. Notwithstanding the 2nd paragraph of section 35 of this Act, the Legislature shall certify by Joint Order the amount which it deems reasonably necessary for the support of public education to the State Director of Property Taxation on or before June 1, 1975.'

Further amend said Bill in section 45 by inserting after the word "school" in the last line (next to last line in L.D.) the words 'or municipal'

Further amend said Bill by inserting after section 45 the following sections:

'Sec. 46. Appropriation. For the purposes of carrying out this chapter, there is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Educational and Cultural Services the sum of \$221,371,515 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976 and the sum of \$243,134,091 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	<u>1975-76</u>	<u>1976-77</u>
05 EDUCATION AND CULTURE		
05000 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES		
1 Current Services		
0308 Education--General Purpose Aid for Local Schools		
All Other	\$221,371,515	\$243,134,091

Sec. 47. Allocation of proceeds of bonds. Allocation of proceeds of bonds authorized in the private and special laws of 1973, chapter 136, section 3, as amended by the public laws of 1973, chapter 783, section 50. The proceeds of the sale of bonds authorized in <sup>the</sup> private and special laws of 1973, chapter 136, section 3, as amended by the public laws of 1973, chapter 783, section 50, are allocated as follows:

	<u>1975-76</u>	<u>1976-77</u>
05 EDUCATION AND CULTURE		
05000 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES		

1 Current Services

0308 Education--General Purpose Aid  
for Local Schools

All Other	\$6,295,000	\$6,765,000
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It is the intent of the Legislature that the proceeds of the sale of such bonds be used for the reimbursement to local units or the redemption of local bond issues made for school construction purposes. Any balance of such allocation unexpended at the end of either fiscal year shall be carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year to be used for the same purposes.

Sec. 48. Uses of general fund appropriations for reimbursement or the redemption of local bonds authorized. In each fiscal year, appropriations from the General Fund as provided in section 47 may be used for the reimbursement on the redemption of local bond issues to the extent that they are required for reimbursement in excess of the amount provided by the allocation of local proceeds allocated in section 47. For the purpose of limiting to the greatest extent possible the cost of interest and debt retirement costs for each year of the biennium, it is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Educational and Cultural Services shall make monthly reimbursements on the redemption of local school bond issues from funds appropriated from the General Fund as long as available balances will permit, which expenditures will be reimbursed from the proceeds of the sale of bonds when received. The State Board of Education is directed to defer its request to the Treasurer of State to negotiate for the sale of such bonds until the proceeds are necessary for the replenishment of General Fund appropriation

account of amounts expended for reimbursement on redemption of local school bonds and for the payment thereafter during each fiscal year of the remaining reimbursements on local school bonds.

Sec. 49. Allotments required. Upon receipt of allotments duly approved by the Governor and Council, based upon work programs submitted to the State Budget Officer, the State Controller shall authorize expenditures of General Fund appropriations, allocations from the Federal Revenue Sharing Fund and allocated bond proceeds for the purposes of this chapter on the basis of such allotments and not otherwise.

Sec. 50. Appropriations for necessary expenditures of certain municipal governments. In order to provide assistance for some of the necessary expenditures of certain municipal governments, there is appropriated from the General Fund the amount of \$3,801,124 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976. The Treasurer of State is ordered and directed to pay 1/2 of the amounts listed below on or before December 31, 1975 and 1/2 of the amounts listed below on or before June 30, 1976; except when the specified total sum is less than \$1,000, in which case the entire sum shall be transmitted by December 31, 1975. These sums shall be distributed by the municipal treasurer, when authorized by the legislative body for the necessary expenses of local government. The breakdown shall be as follows:

1975-76

01 General Government  
 28000 Treasurer of State  
   1 Current Services  
     Program

New and code unassigned - Treasurer - Municipal  
Tax Relief

All Other \$2,510,303.40

Municipality

Acton	\$ 55,020.00
Alexander	290.00
Alna	440.00
Arrowsic	1,578.00
Barnard Pt.	570.00
Boddington	8,168.00
Blanchard Pt.	800.00
Blue Hill	24,880.00
Bowerbank	22,916.00
Bradley	2,740.00
Bremen	27,246.00
Bristol	29,480.00
Brooklin	22,350.00
Carrabasset Valley	45,010.00
Castine	29,730.00
Centerville	1,696.00
Charlotte	552.00
Chelsea	9,550.00
Coplin Pt.	2,112.00
Cranberry Isles	3,322.00
Dallas Pt.	2,904.00
Damariscotta	5,780.74
Deblois	4,344.00
Dresden	6,640.00
Durham	10,270.00
E. Pt.	1,168.00
Edgecomb	4,890.00
Elliottsville Pt.	9,204.00
Georgetown	19,060.00
Glenburn	6,990.00
Glenwood Pt.	5,540.00
Gouldsboro	2,135.81
Grand Falls Pt.	5,056.00
Hancock	5,680.00
Hermon	5,080.00
Hersey	140.00
Highland Pt.	380.00

Municipality

Isle au Haut	\$ 14,180.00
Islesboro	37,432.00
Jefferson	12,030.00
Kingsbury Pt.	7,970.00
Lakeville Pt.	8,910.00
Lamoine	4,830.00
Lincoln Pt.	12,094.00
Long Island Pt.	2,110.00
Macwahoc	20.00
Madrid	80.00
Manchester	6,480.33
Marshfield	1,870.00
Monhegan Pt.	9,108.00
Moro Pt.	132.00
Mt. Desert	12,536.24
Mt. Vernon	12,549.32
Nashville Pt.	14,248.00
Newcastle	9,032.81
Nobleboro	6,310.64
Northfield	2,876.00
No. 14 Pt.	7,334.00
Orland	6,200.00
Otis	17,884.00
Palermo	3,700.00
Penobscot	2,770.00
Phippsburg	15,610.00
Pleasant Ridge Pt.	38,810.00
Rangeley	6,360.00
Rangeley Pt.	29,790.00
Raymond	44,220.00
Readfield	2,985.92
Richmond	2,060.00
Robbinston	740.00
Rome	5,950.00
Roque Bluffs	3,328.00
Sabattus	18,082.16
Sandy River Pt.	23,550.00
Sedgwick	3,740.00
Somerville	1,000.00
South Bristol	9,310.00
Southport	156,260.00

Municipality

Southwest Harbor	\$	7,210.84
Steuben		10,213.25
Surry		5,820.00
Talmadge		2,976.00
Tremont		9,987.52
Trenton		3,800.00
Upton		3,212.00
Vassalboro		2,400.00
Wales		879.98
Wayne		10,467.52
Wells		60,160.00
West Bath		2,400.00
Westmanland Plt.		5,780.00
Westport		15,910.00
Whitefield		8,780.00
Willimantic		1,350.00
Windham		27,660.00
Windsor		840.00
Winter Harbor		6,106.32
Wiscasset		1,540,820.00
Woolwich		15,390.00
York		139,824.00
S.A.D. # 1		840.00
Chapman		840.00
S.A.D. # 2		3,012.00
Shirley		3,012.00
S.A.D. # 3		13,674.00
Jackson		620.00
Knox		2,792.00
Liberty		2,400.00
Monroe		760.00
Montville		1,692.00
Thorndike		2,220.00
Troy		730.00
Unity		1,540.00
Waldo		920.00
S.A.D. # 4		646.00
Cambridge		370.00
Wellington		276.00

Municipality

S.A.D. # 5	\$ 24,200.00
Owl's Head	13,480.00
So. Thomaston	10,720.00
S.A.D. # 6	65,070.00
Buxton	24,800.00
Hollis	1,460.00
Limington	1,820.00
Standish	36,990.00
S.A.D. # 7	7,060.00
North Haven	7,060.00
S.A.D. # 8	7,540.00
Vinalhaven	7,540.00
S.A.D. # 9	10,818.00
Chesterville	4,880.00
Industry	1,890.00
New Sharon	510.00
Temple	2,312.00
Vienna	616.00
Weld	610.00
S.A.D. #11	5,120.00
Pittston	4,830.00
West Gardiner	290.00
S.A.D. #12	556.00
Dennistown Plt.	556.00
S.A.D. #13	3,020.00
Caratunk Plt.	1,060.00
The Forks Plt.	1,340.00
West Forks Plt.	620.00
S.A.D. #16	4,330.00
Farmingdale	4,330.00
S.A.D. #17	41,200.00
Harrison	23,410.00
Hebron	540.00
Otisfield	5,390.00
Oxford	10,460.00
Waterford	1,400.00
S.A.D. #18	2,482.00
Prospect	752.00
Verona	1,730.00
S.A.D. #21	710.00
Canton	710.00

Municipality

S.A.D. #22	\$ 7,400.00
Winterport	7,400.00
S.A.D. #23	6,620.00
Carmel	4,340.00
Levant	2,280.00
S.A.D. #26	440.00
Eastbrook	440.00
S.A.D. #29	480.00
Hammond Plt.	480.00
S.A.D. #30	770.00
Lee	770.00
S.A.D. #31	12,588.00
Lowell	80.00
Maxfield	168.00
Passadumkeag	12,340.00
S.A.D. #32	3,804.00
Oxbow Plt.	64.00
Portage Lake	3,740.00
S.A.D. #34	15,542.00
Belmont	1,312.00
Morrill	210.00
Northport	10,450.00
Searsmont	1,750.00
Swanville	1,820.00
S.A.D. #35	47,990.00
Eliot	34,330.00
So. Berwick	13,660.00
S.A.D. #36	7,470.00
Fayette	4,840.00
Livermore	2,630.00
S.A.D. #37	6,960.00
Addison	1,310.00
Cherryfield	330.00
Columbia	120.00
Harrington	2,360.00
Milbridge	2,840.00
S.A.D. #38	1,970.00
Dixmont	900.00
Etna	1,070.00

Municipality

S.A.D. #40	\$ 17,880.00
Friendship	4,560.00
Union	7,260.00
Warren	3,760.00
Washington	2,300.00
S.A.D. #41	<u>21,630.00</u>
LaGrange	160.00
Lake View Plt.	21,470.00
S.A.D. #44	<u>390.00</u>
Newry	390.00
S.A.D. #46	<u>900.00</u>
Exeter	900.00
S.A.D. #47	<u>13,160.00</u>
Belgrade	13,160.00
S.A.D. #48	<u>192.00</u>
Plymouth	192.00
S.A.D. #49	<u>450.00</u>
Albion	450.00
S.A.D. #50	<u>820.00</u>
St. George	820.00
S.A.D. #51	<u>8,500.00</u>
No. Yarmouth	8,500.00
S.A.D. #52	<u>23,760.00</u>
Leeds	550.00
Turner	23,210.00
S.A.D. #53	<u>13,090.00</u>
Burnham	13,090.00
S.A.D. #54	<u>4,350.00</u>
Canaan	1,320.00
Cornville	1,870.00
Smithfield	1,160.00
S.A.D. #55	<u>7,400.00</u>
Parsonsfield	7,400.00
S.A.D. #56	<u>9,750.00</u>
Frankfort	1,300.00
Searsport	5,490.00
Stockton Springs	2,960.00

Municipality

S.A.D. #57	\$ 57,310.00
Lyman	17,900.00
Newfield	5,110.00
Shapleigh	800.00
Waterboro	33,500.00
S.A.D. #58	14,806.00
Avon	676.00
Eustis	2,360.00
Kingfield	2,570.00
Phillips	3,200.00
Strong	6,000.00
S.A.D. #59	480.00
Athens	480.00
S.A.D. #61	38,140.00
Casco	21,020.00
Naples	17,120.00
S.A.D. #62	10,040.00
Pownal	10,040.00
S.A.D. #63	13,660.00
Eddington	3,640.00
Holden	10,020.00
S.A.D. #64	12,360.00
Corinth	4,000.00
Hudson	900.00
Kenduskeag	5,140.00
Stetson	2,320.00
S.A.D. #65	1,520.00
Matinicus Isle Pt.	1,520.00
S.A.D. #67	620.00
Chester	620.00
S.A.D. #68	7,690.00
Charleston	1,980.00
Monson	200.00
Sebec	5,510.00
S.A.D. #70	2,040.00
Amity	360.00
Cary Pt.	548.00
Ludlow	1,132.00

Municipality

S.A.D. #72	\$ 18,990.00
Brownfield	5,710.00
Stoneham	13,280.00
S.A.D. #75	44,632.00
Bowdoin	3,992.00
Bowdoinham	2,820.00
Harpwell	37,820.00
S.A.D. #76	4,856.00
Swan's Island	4,856.00
S.A.D. #77	5,800.00
Cutler	1,230.00
East Machias	3,360.00
Whiting	1,210.00
Appleton-Hope-Lincolnvile C.S.D.	32,638.00
Appleton	4,470.00
Hope	3,240.00
Lincolnvile	24,928.00
Boothbay-Boothbay Harbor C.S.D.	168,230.00
Boothbay	62,150.00
Boothbay Harbor	106,080.00
Deer Isle-Stonington C.S.D.	22,520.00
Deer Isle	16,380.00
Stonington	6,140.00
Flander's Bay C.S.D.	9,858.70
Franklin	323.94
Gouldsboro	7,044.18
Sorrento	2,490.58
Great Salt Bay C.S.D.	21,285.78
Damariscotta	12,569.25
Newcastle	5,867.17
Nobleboro	2,849.36
Litchfield-Sabattus-Wales C.S.D.	5,027.85
Sabattus	1,277.84
Wales	3,750.01
Moosabec C.S.D.	1,970.00
Beals	1,680.00
Jonesport	290.00

Municipality

Mt. Desert Reg. District	\$ 34,296.24
Bar Harbor	25,683.32
Mt. Desert	4,343.76
Southwest Harbor	4,269.16
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Schoodic C.S.D.	2,173.43
Sorrento	2,173.43
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Southern Aroostook C.S.D.	5,412.00
Crystal	4,172.00
Dyer Brook	1,240.00
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TOTAL	\$3,801,124.00

Statement of Fact

This amendment uses the same language that was used in House Amendment "A", filing number H-135, which has already been accepted by the House, which was enacted to clarify the language in L.D. 1452. It further limits the increase in school operating costs to 6% annually beginning in 1976-77. It also further removes any reference to excess assessments which was declared unconstitutional by the court and adds new language which results in a reduction in the uniform school tax for 1975-76 from the 14 mills originally required by L.D. 1452 to 13 1/4 mills. The amendment requires that the uniform tax be paid to the Treasurer of State in 12 equal installments and that state subsidy be paid to all cities and towns in 12 equal installments. The final part is a private and special Act which distributes approximately \$2,500,000 out of the General Fund to certain municipalities with amounts specified in the amendment. The financial requirements of both years of the biennium are fully

spelled out in sections 46, 47 and 48 and are in line with available funds.

Filed by Mr. Palmer of Nobleboro.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

5/12/75

(Filing No. H-305)