

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
107TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

(Filing No. H-884)

HOUSE AMENDMENT "F " to H.P. 2020, L.D. 2196, Bill,
"AN ACT to Revise the Laws Relating to Funding of Public Schools."

Amend said Bill in section 1 by striking out all of paragraphs A and B of subsection 1 of that part designated "§3748." and inserting in place thereof the following:

'A. Multiply the average number of resident elementary pupils in the unit on April 1st and October 1st of the calendar year prior to the year of allocation of funds by the basic elementary per pupil operating rate as established in section 3747.

B. Multiply the average number of resident secondary pupils in the unit on April 1st and October 1st of the calendar year prior to the year of allocation of funds by the basic secondary per pupil operating rate as established in section 3747.'

Further amend said Bill in section 1 by striking out all of the last sentence of subparagraph (1) of paragraph C of subsection 1 of that part designated "§3748." and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Reimbursement for special education programs operated or contracted for by the administrative unit shall be limited to 90% of the estimated costs used in compiling the commissioner's recommendation and adjusted by the Legislature in its establishment of the basic

education appropriation for this item or 90% of the actual expenditures, whichever is less.'

Further amend said Bill in section 1 by striking out all of the first sentence of subparagraph (2) of paragraph C of subsection 1 of that part designated "§3748." and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Reimbursement for vocational education shall be limited to 90% of the estimated costs used in compiling the commissioner's recommendation and adjusted by the Legislature in its establishment of the basic education appropriation for this item or 90% of the actual expenditures, whichever is less.'

Further amend said Bill in section 1 by striking out all of subparagraph (3) of paragraph C of subsection 1 of that part designated "§3748." and inserting in place thereof the following:

'(3) Transportation of pupils, including the purchase of buses. Reimbursement for transportation operating costs shall be limited to 90% of the estimated costs used in compiling the commissioner's recommendation and adjusted by the Legislature in its establishment of the basic education appropriation for this item or 90% of the actual expenditures, whichever is less.'

Further amend said Bill in section 2 by striking out all of the first sentence of the 2nd paragraph of subsection 11 and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Under the subsection, an administrative unit is authorized to appropriate a maximum of \$62.50 per pupil for this 6-month period ending June 30, 1976 for the pupils specified in section 3713, subsection 1.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment has 3 purposes. First, it clearly identifies the students who are to be counted in computing the allocation to each unit. These students will be those present on April 1st and October 1st in the calendar year preceding the year of allocation of funds. This student count represents the most recent actual count prior to the annual legislative action required by the bill.

Second, the amendment clarifies the allocation procedure by ensuring the unit's estimate, adjusted by the commissioner and the Legislature or the unit's actual expenditures, whichever is less, will be the basis for each unit's allocation in the categorized areas. This language will remove the possibility of all units having their reimbursement reduced because of the excesses of only a few.

Third, the amendment clearly identifies the 6-month period ending June 30, 1976 during which those units converting to a uniform fiscal year may raise the current level of local leeway.

Filed by Mrs. Mitchell of Vassalboro.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
2/10/76

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