

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2352

H. P. 2346

House of Representatives, April 14, 1976

Approved for Introduction by a Majority of the Committee on Reference of Bills pursuant to Joint Order, S. P. 635, as amended. Read twice under suspension of rules and passed to be engrossed without reference to Committee. In concurrence ordered sent forthwith and printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Cooney of Sabattus.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SIX

AN ACT Appropriating Funds to the Litchfield, Sabattus and Wales
Community School District.

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

Sec. 1. State grant for school funding. Notwithstanding any provision of statute to the contrary, the Litchfield, Sabattus and Wales Community School District is granted, for the fiscal year 1977 only, the sum of \$49,754 with the provision that the voters in the Litchfield, Sabattus and Wales Community School District vote to match the state appropriation by raising \$49,754 in addition to the state assessed uniform tax and the 2 mills local leeway appropriation.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$49,754 to the Department of Educational and Cultural Services for distribution to the Litchfield, Sabattus and Wales Community School District for the fiscal year 1977.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Litchfield, Sabattus and Wales CSD was incorporated on July 1, 1974 for the purpose of providing a high school for the secondary pupils in the towns of Litchfield, Sabattus and Wales. Previously, pupils from the 3 towns had been tuitioned to 8 communities.

Construction of the high school started in June of 1975 with a completion date of August 30, 1976. On March 16, 1976, a fire destroyed 1/5 of the school which contained space for 150 of the anticipated 400 pupils due September 1976. The completed school will not be available by September 1976. Four hundred pupils will be scheduled into space normally allocated to 250 pupils. This will necessitate double sessions and additional operating costs.

The school funding bill passed effective July 1, 1976 indicates Oak Hill High School, CSD, will receive \$964.96 per pupil vs the state average of \$1,110 per pupil for 356 pupils vs the anticipated enrollment of 400 pupils. This is a new school starting from scratch and without transfer ability of supplies and equipment from an existing school. The start-up costs compounded by the fire loss are more than the 3 towns can financially handle and provide an appropriate secondary program. The reimbursement from the funding law for 356 pupils is \$51,634 less than the state average, plus the 44 pupils with no reimbursement equals another \$48,840, plus the extra costs of double sessions cannot be made up from local leeway and maintenance of effort.

The CSD trustees respectfully request the sum of \$49,754 be granted from the State for the 1977 fiscal year and the trustees will request a matching figure of \$49,754 from the district in the form of local maintenance of effort, this amount to be in addition to local leeway.