

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1170

H. P. 973

House of Representatives, March 23, 1977

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 Mr. Bagley of Winthrop.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Appropriating Funds for the Winthrop Public Schools.

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

Sec. 1. State grant for school funding. Notwithstanding the provision of any other law to the contrary, the Town of Winthrop, is granted, for the fiscal year 1977-78 only, the sum of \$200,000 provided that the district raises the 2 mills of local leeway and an additional mill beyond the school funding limits.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Educational and Cultural Services the sum of \$200,000 for the fiscal year 1977-78 for distribution to the Winthrop public schools.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Approximately one year ago, the Winthrop public schools commenced construction of a middle school to educate 360 pupils. The school will open on September 1, 1977. Compounding the problem, the High School lost \$299,900 in tuition revenues. Also, in addition to the cost of operating a new school and an \$86,000 subsidy loss because of the per pupil costs affected through the loss of tuition students, the town must absorb the start up costs of a school lunch program.

The town is being required to raise the 2 mill option and the uniform property tax. As a result of the new school and a new lunch program, the total operating budget increase is \$274,000 and the cost of school operation in ex-

cess of estimated revenues is \$315,804. If the school system is going to maintain its planned program, it must receive \$200,000 to pay the additional cost of the new school and permit the school to adjust to the subsidy formula.

Last year the town raised \$179,000 above the 2 mill option. This was a 4.97 mill effort on local valuation and a 3.94 mill effort on state valuation. It is therefore imperative that \$200,000 be granted by the State in order that the Winthrop public schools can begin operations within the restructured school system.