

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
108TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE AMENDMENT "B " to H.P. 1160, L.D. 1252,
Bill, "AN ACT Relating to School Funding and Inventory Tax Reimbursement."

Amend the Bill by striking out everything after the title
and inserting in its place the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
as emergencies; and

Whereas, this 90-day period will terminate after April; and

Whereas, the requirements of Title 20, section 3747, must
be complied with; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary
for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
therefore,

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

Sec. 1. Appropriation. The appropriation provided for general
purpose aid for local schools in 1977-78 shall be expended for the
purposes listed below under Parts A and B of this section as modified
by section 3.

PART A

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Elementary and Secondary
Operating Costs | \$219,555,155 |
| 2. Special Education costs for
programs operated by the
administrative units | 9,032,600 |
| 3. Special Education-costs for
tuition and board, excluding
medical costs | 4,314,600 |

D. O. E. R.

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4. Vocational Education Costs	5,680,800
5. Transportation Costs	
a. Operating	15,286,019
b. Purchase of Buses	2,827,400
6. Debt Service Costs	
a. Capital Outlay	763,900
b. Debt Service	26,750,000
Subtotal	284,210,474
Less: P.L. 874 Funds	1,900,000
Total - Part A	\$282,310,474

PART B

1. Cost of Unusual Enrollment Adjustments	600,000
2. Cost of Geographic Isolation Adjustments	308,934
3. Cost of Reimbursement for Private School Transportation	217,000
4. Audit Adjustments	71,000
5. Optional Local Appropriations with State Participation - maximum State obligation	7,095,826
Total - Part B	8,292,760
Grand Total	\$290,603,234

Sec. 2. Basic per pupil elementary and secondary per pupil operating rate. The basic elementary per pupil operating rate for 1977-78 shall be \$827 and the basic secondary per pupil rate for 1977-78 shall be \$1,159.

Sec. 3. Limit of state's obligation. In the event that the state's computed obligation for any individual program contained within Part A and B exceeds the level of funding provided for that program, any unexpended balances occurring in other programs within that Part may be applied to avoid proration of payments for any individual program. Any unexpended balance from Part A or Part B shall not lapse but shall be carried forward to be used for the same purpose.

Sec. 4. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Educational and Cultural Services the sum of (\$3,086,860) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977, and the sum of \$158,246,439 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1978, to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	<u>1976-77</u>	<u>1977-78</u>
EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF		
General purpose aid for local schools		
All Other	(\$3,086,860)	\$158,246,439

Sec. 5. 20 M RSA §3748, sub-§4, 3rd, 4th and 7th sentences, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 746, §24-P, are amended to read:

Under this subsection, an administrative unit is authorized to appropriate a maximum of ~~90~~ 115 per pupil per year for the pupils specified in subsection 1. The maximum levy on a municipality within an administrative unit shall not exceed ~~45~~ 57.50 per pupil per mill levied on that municipality.

If the additional school levy authorized under this subsection fails to produce ~~45~~ 57.50 per pupil per mill levied, the commissioner shall add to the allocation of the unit for the unit's fiscal year a sum which, when combined with the local levy under this section, shall equal ~~45~~ 57.50 per pupil per mill.

Sec. 6. 20 MRSA §3748, sub-§4, 10th sentence, as amended by PL 1975, c. 746, §24-R, is further amended to read:
The purpose of these appropriations is to provide that all administrative units may raise and appropriate at least ~~45~~ 57.50 per pupil per mill to supplement the adjusted allocations when necessary in the judgment of the local administrative units.

Sec. 7. 30 MRSA §5056, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 592, §2, is amended by adding at the end the following:

This reimbursement shall be made to each municipality in accordance with the following schedule:

- A. For the year 1977-78, 70% of each municipality's revenue loss shall be reimbursed;
- B. For the year 1978-79, 60% of each municipality's revenue loss shall be reimbursed;
- C. For the year 1979-80, 50% of each municipality's revenue loss shall be reimbursed;

D. For the year 1980-81, 40% of each municipality's revenue loss shall be reimbursed;

E. For the year 1981-82, 30% of each municipality's revenue loss shall be reimbursed;

F. For the year 1982-83, 20% of each municipality's revenue loss shall be reimbursed; and

G. Thereafter, no municipality's revenue loss shall be reimbursed.

Sec. 8. 36 MRSA §451-A is enacted to read:

§451-A. Mill rate for fiscal year 1977-78

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 451, subsection 2, the uniform property tax rate shall be 11.50 mills for the period beginning July 1, 1977 and ending June 30, 1978.

Sec. 9. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Treasurer of State the sum of \$18,590,000 for the 1977-78 and 1978-79. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	<u>1977-78</u>	<u>1978-79</u>
STATE TREASURY		
All Other	\$10,010,000	\$8,580,000

Sec. 10. Reimbursement funding. 50% but not to exceed an aggregate of \$4,300,000 of any funds to be received by the State of Maine under PL 94-369; Title II of the Public Works Act of 1976 after May 1, 1977, shall be allocated to reimburse Maine cities and towns for 1973 inventory taxes lost. Such additional moneys shall be apportioned based upon the relative 1973 inventory taxes of each community to the total 1973 inventory collections of all communities.

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Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the Preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.'

Statement of Fact

The intent of this amendment is to implement the conference committee report on H.P. 1160, L.D. 1252.