MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 108TH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION

(Filing No. H-1071)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 2028, L.D. 2096, Bill,
"AN ACT Relating to Tuition Computation Charged by Private
Schools under the Education of Exceptional Children Law."

Amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the Statement of Fact and inserting in its place the following:

'20 MRSA §3130, sub-§2, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 358,

§4, is amended by adding at the end the following new sentences:

Until June 30, 1980, however, the commissioner is authorized to approve tuition rates equivalent to those charged by private

schools, agencies or institutions which serve exceptional children exclusively for the placement of exceptional children in any existing general purpose private school, agency or institution.

These rates shall be approved only when the general purpose private school, agency or institution meets the criteria of section 3125, subsection 1 and when the commissioner determines that the special education needs of the child cannot be appropriately met by the special education resources of the school administrative units responsible for the education of these children.'

Statement of Fact

Although the policy of the State of Maine is to educate children with special educational needs in the public schools through the use of special educational resources to the greatest

extent possible, this legislation ensures that adequate provision is made for exceptional children during the transitional period in which the public schools are developing their capability to meet the special needs of exceptional children by allowing the commissioner to pay special purpose school tuition rates to private schools with suitable programs through June 1, 1980, when the placement is required to meet the educational needs of the children.

Reported by the Committee on Education.

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