

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1178

H. P. 947

House of Representatives, March 13, 1979

On Motion of Mr. Connolly of Portland, referred to the Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Kelleher of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT Concerning State Reimbursement for Private School Transportation.

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

Sec. 1. 20 MRSA § 4750, sub-§ 6, first sentence, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 625, § 8, is amended to read:

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the commissioner shall reimburse **both** 50% of the expenditures, **other than for transportation, and 90% of the expenditures for transportation** of the base year as reported by the municipal officers on forms provided by the commissioner for providing any of the services to nonpublic school pupils authorized by Title 30, section 5104, subsections 5 through 8, provided the students attend nonpublic schools that are not operated for profit in whole or in part.

Sec. 2. 20 MRSA § 4750, sub-§ 7, first, 2nd and last sentences, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 625, § 8, are amended to read:

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, ~~for the year beginning July 1, 1978, and ending June 30, 1979~~ the commissioner shall reimburse 90% of the expenditures for private school transportation for the year prior to the year of allocation. For the year beginning July 1, 1979, and ending June 30, 1980, the commissioner shall reimburse 50% of the expenditures, **other than expenditures for transportation**, of the year immediately prior to the year of allocation for those items subject to reimbursement under subsection 6.

The total amount reimbursed under this subsection **and subsection 6** shall not exceed the level of funds appropriated for this item under section 4747, subsection 11.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill will ensure that private schools are reimbursed for 90% of their transportation expenditures. The present law calls for a phased down reimbursement, which would cause a severe financial crisis for private schools. This bill will keep the level of reimbursement at its present level.