

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1814

H. P. 1709

House of Representatives, January 17, 1980

Referred to the Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk of the House

Presented by Mrs. Locke of Sebec.

Cosponsor: Mr. McSweeney of Old Orchard Beach.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY

AN ACT to Assist Private Secular Schools in Complying with the Federal Handicapped Laws on Program Accessibility.

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

Sec. 1. Use of appropriation. The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services is authorized to expend the money appropriated in section 2 in the following manner.

1. Assistance to private secular schools. The commissioner may provide money to eligible private secular schools which serve public elementary and secondary school students to assist them in complying with program accessibility requirements of section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, PL 93 - 112, 87 STAT. 394, 29 U.S.C. 794, or to reimburse them for steps taken on or after January 1, 1980 to comply with such law.

2. Eligible schools. Any private secular school which receives more than 50% of tuition from public funds may apply for assistance under this Act. A school which applies shall demonstrate an actual need for assistance and shall apply no later than July 1, 1981.

3. Limit on amount. The commissioner may not provide to an eligible school an amount of assistance payment which exceeds 35% of the amount necessary to

meet program accessibility requirements. In no event may the amount of assistance exceed \$35,000 to any school.

4. Procedure. The commissioner shall establish an appropriate procedure for processing applications under this Act and for assuring that any school receiving assistance uses the money only for purposes authorized by this Act.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1980-81

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES,
DEPARTMENT OF

All Other

\$350,000

These funds shall not lapse but shall be carried forward to accomplish the purposes of this Act.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to provide funding assistance to private secular schools which serve public elementary and secondary school students to enable them to comply with certain federal laws. These laws require that the schools make programs accessible to handicapped students. Without assistance the schools may not be able to comply and may lose federal assistance.