MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document   **No. 748**

S. P. 266   In Senate, February 10, 1981
    Referred to the Committee on Education. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.
                        MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate
Presented by Senator Trotzky of Penobscot.
  Cosponsor: Represenative Gowen of Standish.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to the Calculation of State Average Per Pupil Operating Costs.

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

  Sec. 1.   20 MRSA § 4752, sub-§ 2, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 625, § 8, is amended to read:

  2. Calculation of operating costs. For the purposes of this chapter, moneys raised under subsection 1 shall be included in any future calculation of the administrative unit's elementary and secondary per pupil operating costs, ~~but~~ **and** shall ~~not~~ be included in any future calculations of the state average or total operating costs.

  Sec. 2. Effective date. This Act will take effect on July 1, 1982.

FISCAL NOTE

  It is estimated that this bill would require an additional appropriation of about $4,000,000 in 1982-83.

STATEMENT OF FACT

  The state average elementary and secondary per pupil operating costs in the

base year, 2-years old, are updated by a generally defined percentage each year to reflect one-year old per pupil costs in the allocation system that affects all school administrative units. Presently, these state average per pupil costs do not include local expenditures that result from appropriations above local leeway. With more and more units having to resort to above leeway appropriations, this exclusion of expenditures is increasing rapidly in total dollar amount and is thus causing the state average costs to be artificially lower than the actual per pupil costs. For example, the actual 1979-80 elementary per pupil cost was $5 higher than the "calculated" cost and the actual secondary per pupil cost exceeded the "calculated" cost by $44. This bill would correct that inequity.