

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-396)  
110th LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1177, L.D. 1401, Bill, "AN ACT Relating to Compulsory School Attendance and the Enforcement of Truancy."

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1.

Further amend the bill in section 2, 4th line, (same in LD) by striking out the words "in any way" and inserting in their place the following '~~in-any-way~~ primarily'

Further amend the bill in section 2, 6th line (5th line in LD) by striking out the underlined word "less" and inserting in its place the underlined word 'more'

Further amend the bill by renumbering section 2 to be section 1.

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 2. 20 MRSA §966, sub-§1, 4th and 5th sentences, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 696, §174, are amended to read:

Any resident pupil counted in a unit or school on October 15th shall maintain a minimum attendance of ~~85%~~ 75% between October 15th and April 15th, exclusive of sickness or other excused absences, to be included in the count on April 15th. Students transferring into a unit or school shall maintain a minimum attendance of ~~85%~~ 75%, exclusive of sickness or other excused absences, from the date of entry until April 15th to be counted in the April 15th count.'

Statement of Fact

The amendment removes the lowering in school learning age from 17 to 15 and allows the Education Committee time to research the impact of lowering the age. It limits the fine imposed on parents for violation of the truancy laws to \$200 when they are primarily responsible for the truancy. It further amends the bill by allowing the community to include the students in its pupil count for subsidy purposes, if the student is not absent more than 25% of the days without permission. The present law is 15%.

Reported by the Committee on Education.  
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5/14/81

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