

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2492
(Filing No. H-763)

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
111TH LEGISLATURE
THIRD SPECIAL SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "J" to H.P. 1895, L.D. 2492,
Bill, "AN ACT to Implement the Recommendations of the
Commission on the Status of Education in Maine."

Amend the bill in PART J, section 2 by inserting
at the end the following:

§13508. Future appropriations

It is the intent of the Legislature that
\$13,500,000 be appropriated in fiscal year 1985-86,
\$27,000,000 be appropriated in fiscal year 1986-87,
and \$27,000,000 and any additional funds that may be
appropriated in fiscal year 1987-88 by the 112th and
113th Legislatures to carry out the intent of this
chapter. It is also the intent that appropriations
shall be made in subsequent years to continue the
programs established under this chapter. The appro-
priations referred to in this section shall be placed
in a nonlapsing account to be used to carry out the
intent of this chapter.

§13509. Payments

Payments made under this chapter shall be made:

1. School year 1985-86. For the school year
1985-86, in accordance with sections 13503 to 13505;

2. School year 1986-87. For the school year
1986-87, in accordance with the interim recommenda-
tions of the commission established in section 13510;
and

3. School year 1987-88 and subsequent years.
For the school year 1987-88 and subsequent years, in

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1 accordance with the permanent recommendations of the
2 commission established in section 13510 for a perma-
3 nent solution.

4 §13510. Special Commission to Study the Implementa-
5 tion of Educational Reform

6 1. Commission established. There is created the
7 Special Commission to Study the Implementation of Ed-
8 ucational Reform. The commission shall consist of 12
9 members. Seven members shall be legislators of whom
10 5 shall be members of the Joint Standing Committee on
11 Education and 3 of whom shall be members of the Joint
12 Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial
13 Affairs. The President of the Senate shall appoint 3
14 of the legislator members; and the Speaker of the
15 House shall appoint 5 of the legislator members.
16 Legislative members shall represent a bipartisan
17 point of view. The remaining 4 members shall be ap-
18 pointed by the Governor and shall be persons familiar
19 with education and education finance, 2 of whom shall
20 be the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Ser-
21 vices, or his designee, and the Commissioner of Fi-
22 nance and Administration, or his designee. Members
23 shall serve until accomplishment of the tasks speci-
24 fied in this chapter. Legislative members shall not
25 be disqualified for discontinuance of legislative
26 service. Vacancies may be filled with qualified ap-
27 pointees by the appointing authority.

28 2. Commission duties. The commission shall
29 study issues related to the implementation of educa-
30 tion reform in Maine. The commission shall address
31 the following concerns and take the following action.

32 A. Study the impact on local communities of the
33 education finance act and of implementing in-
34 creased curriculum and graduation requirements
35 and recommend ways to meet increased local needs.
36 The commission shall estimate projected local
37 costs, including catastrophic costs, and propose
38 alternative methods for meeting those costs, in-

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- 1 cluding recommendations for additional state
2 funding of education costs;
- 3 B. Study and make recommendations on ways to
4 permanently enhance teacher compensation, includ-
5 ing examination of a statewide salary schedule, a
6 minimum base salary, stipends and other options
7 which may be submitted to the commission for con-
8 sideration;
- 9 C. Study and make recommendations on the need
10 for and methods of ensuring the maintenance of
11 local educational efforts and that state funded
12 recognition grants shall not be considered in the
13 collective bargaining process;
- 14 D. Study the definition of teacher, including
15 part-time personnel, for the purpose of determin-
16 ing which educational personnel qualify for
17 teacher recognition grants. In conducting this
18 part of its study the commissioner shall bear in
19 mind that the purpose for those grants was to en-
20 hance the status of and to reward classroom
21 teachers. The commission shall make recommenda-
22 tions on the short-term and long-term implementa-
23 tion of a teacher compensation plan; and shall
24 include in its report an assessment of the need
25 for a panel to settle disputes regarding teacher
26 compensation;
- 27 E. Study the advantages and disadvantages of and
28 make recommendations on the inclusion of teacher
29 recognition grants in earnable compensation for
30 retirement purposes;
- 31 F. Study the operation of collective bargaining
32 at the local level and make recommendations for
33 changes which would improve the quality of educa-
34 tion; and
- 35 G. Examine and make recommendations on other is-
36 ssues which the commission determines affect the

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1 quality of education in Maine.

2 3. Commission report. The commission shall re-
3 port to the Joint Standing Committee on Education.
4 The report shall include estimated state and local
5 costs of recommendations and implementing legisla-
6 tion, if necessary. The first report shall be due on
7 April 1, 1985. In the succeeding years, the commis-
8 sion shall report annually on January 1st, until such
9 time as the committee determines it has completed its
10 task.

11 A. On April 1, 1985, the commission shall recom-
12 mend an interim mechanism for expending allocated
13 moneys to enhance teacher remuneration.

14 B. The commission's permanent recommendation for
15 the use of allocated funds shall be in accordance
16 with the following intent of the Legislature.

17 It is the intent of the Legislature that the
18 \$27,000,000 per year initially utilized for
19 teacher recognition grants and such additional
20 moneys as the Legislature may appropriate to im-
21 plement this chapter shall continue to be availa-
22 ble to enhance education in Maine, including use
23 for teacher compensation, increasing state aid to
24 local units through the finance act or other pro-
25 grams which the Legislature determines will en-
26 hance the quality of education in Maine.'

27 Further amend the bill in PART J by inserting af-
28 ter section 4 the following:

29 'Sec. 5. Staff. The commission may request
30 staff assistance from the Legislative Council and the
31 Governor's Office.

32 Sec. 6. Appropriation. There is appropriated
33 from the General Fund \$3,000 for the fiscal year end-
34 ing June 30, 1985 to carry out the purposes of this
35 Part.

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	<u>1984-85</u>
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2	<u>SPECIAL COMMISSION TO STUDY THE</u>
3	<u>IMPLEMENTATION OF EDUCATIONAL REFORM</u>
4	Personal Services \$1,250
5	Per diem for Legislators
6	All Other 1,750
7	Travel and expenses for members
8	Total \$3,000'
9	Further amend the bill in PART J, section 5, in
10	the last line (page 72, line 23 in L.D.) by striking
11	out the following "December 1, 1985" and inserting in
12	its place the following 'February 15, 1986'
13	Further amend the bill in PART J by renumbering
14	section 5 to be section 7.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

2 The purpose of this amendment is to correct an
3 inconsistency on dates within the bill and to create
4 a special commission to study and monitor the impact
5 of the implementation of educational reform. The en-
6 actment of "AN ACT to Implement the Recommendations
7 of the Commission on the Status of Education in
8 Maine" mandated a number of programs for improving
9 the quality of education. Some of these programs
10 will result in additional costs to the State and to
11 local communities. The special commission created by
12 this amendment will monitor the implementation of the
13 Act and make recommendations regarding adjustments to
14 these programs to ensure that they are working to im-
15 prove the quality of education and that their costs
16 are being borne equitably.

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Filed by Rep. Crouse of Washburn
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of the House
9/10/84 (Filing No. H-763)