

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2492

(Filing No. H- 764)

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

HOUSE AMENDMENT "K" 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 by striking out all of Part J and  
inserting in its place the following:

'PART J

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA c. 506 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 506

TEACHER COMPENSATION

§13501. Future appropriations

It is the intent of this 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-  
riations referred to in this section shall be placed  
in a nonlapsing account to be used to carry out the  
intent of this chapter.

§13502. Special commission to study the implementa-  
tion of educational reform

1. Commission established. There is created the  
Special Commission to Study the Implementation of Ed-  
ucational Reform. The commission shall consist of 12  
members. Seven members shall be legislators of whom

HOUSE AMENDMENT "K" to H.P. 1895, L.D. 2492

1 5 shall be members of the Joint Standing Committee on  
2 Education and 3 of whom shall be members of the Joint  
3 Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial  
4 Affairs. The President of the Senate shall appoint 3  
5 of the legislator members; and the Speaker of the  
6 House shall appoint 5 of the legislator members.  
7 Legislative members shall represent a bipartisan  
8 point of view. The remaining 4 members shall be ap-  
9 pointed by the Governor and shall be persons familiar  
10 with education and education finance, 2 of whom shall  
11 be the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Ser-  
12 vices, or his designee, and the Commissioner of Fi-  
13 nance and Administration, or his designee. Members  
14 shall serve until accomplishment of the tasks speci-  
15 fied in this chapter. Legislative members shall not  
16 be disqualified for discontinuance of legislative  
17 service. Vacancies may be filled with qualified ap-  
18 pointees by the appointing authority.

19 2. Commission duties. The commission shall  
20 study issues related to the implementation of educa-  
21 tion reform in Maine. The commission shall address  
22 the following concerns and take the following action:

23 A. Study the impact on local communities of the  
24 education finance act and of implementing in-  
25 creased curriculum and graduation requirements  
26 and recommend ways to meet increased local needs.  
27 The commission shall estimate projected local  
28 costs, including catastrophic costs, and propose  
29 alternative methods for meeting those costs, in-  
30 cluding recommendations for additional state  
31 funding of education costs;

32 B. Study and make recommendations on ways to  
33 permanently enhance teacher compensation, includ-  
34 ing examination of a statewide salary schedule, a  
35 minimum base salary, stipends and other options  
36 which may be submitted to the commission for con-  
37 sideration;

38 C. Study and make recommendations on the need

HOUSE AMENDMENT "K" to H.P. 1895, L.D. 2492

1           for and methods of ensuring the maintenance of  
2           local educational efforts and that state funded  
3           recognition grants shall not be considered in the  
4           collective bargaining process;

5           D. Study the definition of teacher, including  
6           part-time personnel, for the purpose of determin-  
7           ing ways of enhancing compensation for education-  
8           al personnel. In conducting this part of its  
9           study, the commission shall bear in mind that the  
10          purpose is to enhance the status of and to re-  
11          ward classroom teachers. The commission shall  
12          make recommendations on the short-term and long-  
13          term implementation of a teacher compensation  
14          plan; and shall include in its report an assess-  
15          ment of the need for a panel to settle disputes  
16          regarding teacher compensation;

17          E. Study the advantages and disadvantages of and  
18          make recommendations on the inclusion of in-  
19          creased teacher compensation within the defini-  
20          tion of earnable compensation for retirement pur-  
21          poses;

22          F. Study the operation of collective bargaining  
23          at the local level and make recommendations for  
24          changes which would improve the quality of educa-  
25          tion; and

26          G. Examine and make recommendations on other is-  
27          ssues which the commission determines affect the  
28          quality of education in Maine.

29          3. Commission report. The commission shall re-  
30          port to the Joint Standing Committee on Education.  
31          The report shall include estimated state and local  
32          costs of recommendations and implementing legisla-  
33          tion, if necessary. The first report shall be due on  
34          April 1, 1985. In the succeeding years, the commis-  
35          sion shall report annually on January 1st, until such  
36          time as the committee determines it has completed its  
37          task.



HOUSE AMENDMENT "K" to H.P. 1895, L.D. 2492

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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. It also indicates the  
17 Legislature's intent to appropriate moneys for en-  
18 hancing teacher remuneration in future years and  
19 changes the commission recommended interim and perma-  
20 nent mechanisms for disbursing these funds.

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Filed by Rep. Zirnkilton of Mount Desert  
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Clerk of the House  
9/10/84           (Filing No. H-764)