

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(New Draft of H.P. 118, L.D. 143)
(New Title)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1725

H.P. 1262 House of Representatives, June 2, 1987
Reported by the Majority from the Committee on Education
and printed under Joint Rule 2.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Original bill sponsored by Representative HANDY of
Lewiston. Cosponsored by Representatives MATTHEWS of Caribou,
BOST of Orono, and Senator KANY of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Improve the Qualifications and
Compensation of Substitute Teachers.

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13203 is enacted to read:

§13203. Substitute teachers

1. Rules. Substitute teachers may be employed
by superintendents in accordance with this section
and with rules promulgated by the commissioner in ac-
cordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act,
Title 5, chapter 375.

1 2. Categories. Substitute teachers shall be
2 categorized and may be employed as follows.

3 A. A person may serve as a substitute teacher
4 with no time limit in a position for which he is
5 certified as a teacher under chapter 501 or 502
6 with respect to both subject matter and grade
7 level.

8 B. A person with at least a bachelor's degree
9 may serve as a substitute teacher for a maximum
10 of 60 days in any one position for which he is
11 certified under chapter 501 or 502 with respect
12 to either subject matter or grade level.

13 C. A person with at least a bachelor's degree
14 may serve as a substitute teacher for a maximum
15 of 45 days in any one position.

16 D. A person who has successfully completed at
17 least 3 years of college preparation may serve as
18 a substitute teacher for a maximum of 30 days in
19 any one position.

20 3. Special situations. The commissioner shall
21 promulgate rules under which persons, who do not meet
22 the qualifications of subsection 2, may be employed
23 for limited lengths of time. Those rules, at a mini-
24 mum, shall cover the following:

25 A. The requirement of and procedure for making a
26 specific finding by the school administrative
27 unit of the special situation or emergency which
28 warrants employment of that person as a substi-
29 tute teacher, including the unavailability of
30 persons qualified as substitute teachers under
31 subsection 2, paragraphs A to D;

32 B. The length of that employment and the proce-
33 dure for extension, if appropriate;

34 C. Methods to assure that any person so employed
35 possesses at least a high school degree in addi-
36 tion to other skills or qualifications necessary
37 to serve as a substitute teacher;

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STATEMENT OF FACT

2 The purpose of this new draft is to establish in
3 law various categories for substitute teachers and to
4 prescribe the length of time they may serve in one
5 position based on the level of their qualifications.
6 It is the intent of this bill to establish several
7 categories for substitute teachers and to encourage
8 persons wishing to serve as substitute teachers to
9 attain the highest category. It is also the intent
10 of this bill that superintendents be encouraged to
11 hire qualified substitutes from the highest available
12 category. These intents are consistent with the goal
13 of quality public school education and with other ed-
14 ucational reform measures.

15 The new draft also tightens the procedure govern-
16 ing the use of substitute teachers with less than the
17 minimum qualifications in emergency situations. The
18 Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services is
19 directed to promulgate rules to implement the new re-
20 quirements.

21 The new draft raises the minimum daily compensa-
22 tion for substitute teachers from \$30 to \$35 a day
23 and places the most qualified substitute teachers on
24 the regular teacher base salary scale if they have
25 taught for 20 days or more in one school unit.

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