

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 2150

H.P. 1575 House of Representatives, January 27, 1988
Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative CLARK of Brunswick.

Cosponsored by Senators GILL of Cumberland, ESTES of York
and Representative NORTON of Winthrop.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 **AN ACT to Provide for Child Care and Child**
2 **Development Training for Student Parents.**
3

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

6 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA c. 223, sub-c. VIII is**
7 enacted to read:

8 SUBCHAPTER VIII

1 CHILD CARE SERVICES AND PARENTING EDUCATION

2 §6651. Child care services

3 School administrative units may develop
4 school-based child care services.

5 1. Purpose. The purpose of the school-based child
6 care services is to:

7 A. Make it possible for student parents to
8 continue attending or return to school;

9 B. Provide parenting education and training in
10 child development for teenage parents; and

11 C. Aid teacher recruitment.

12 2. Program. School-based child care services shall:

13 A. Be developmentally based;

14 B. Be available on a priority basis first to
15 children of students in the school administrative
16 unit and 2nd to children of teachers or other
17 employees in the unit; and

18 C. Include training in parenting and child
19 development for the student parents of the
20 children in the program.

21 3. Subsidizable costs under the School Finance Act
22 of 1985. The cost of salaries and educational
23 materials attributable to the child care service shall
24 be calculated on a per-child basis. These costs shall
25 be subsidizable under section 15603, subsection 22, as
26 follows:

27 A. One hundred percent of the cost per child times
28 the number of children whose parents attend school
29 in the school unit; and

30 B. Twenty-five percent of the cost per child times
31 the number of children whose parents teach or are

1 employees of the school system.

2 The remaining costs shall be included as general
3 operating costs under the School Finance Act of 1985.

4 4. Cost to teachers and other employees. The
5 school administrative unit may assess a fee to
6 teachers and other employees to cover all or a portion
7 of the costs not included in subsection 3, paragraph
8 B. Costs covered by fees may not be included as
9 subsidizable costs under the School Finance Act of
10 1985.

11 5. Cost to students. There shall be no cost to
12 the student for enrolling a child in the child care
13 service offered by a school unit if the student has an
14 education plan, approved by the school unit, leading
15 to a high school diploma or equivalent.

16 §6652. Parenting and training in child development

17 A school administrative unit which provides child
18 care services under section 6651 shall offer a
19 one-semester course in parenting and child development
20 to secondary school students.

21 §6653. Rules

22 The department may adopt rules governing this
23 subchapter pursuant to the Maine Administrative
24 Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375.

25 Sec. 2. 20-A MRS §15603, sub-§22, ¶D, as
26 amended by PL 1987, c. 523, §3, is further amended to
27 read:

28 D. Starting in 1986-87 for expenditures in the
29 base year 1984-85, the following preschool
30 handicapped services:

31 (1) The salary and benefit costs of
32 certified professional, assistants and aides
33 or persons contracted to perform preschool
34 handicapped services which have been approved
35 by the commissioner; and

1 (2) The cost of tuition to other schools for
2 programs which have been approved by the
3 commissioner; and

4 Sec. 3. 20-A M RSA §15603, sub-§22, ¶E, as
5 enacted by PL 1987, c. 523, §4, is amended to read:

6 E. The cost of tuition, books, fees and
7 transportation for courses taken at post-secondary
8 institutions under chapter 208-; and

9 Sec. 4. 20-A M RSA §15603, sub-§22, ¶F is
10 enacted to read:

11 F. The cost of child care services as
12 specified in section 6651, subsection 3,
13 paragraphs A and B.

14 STATEMENT OF FACT

15 The purpose of this bill is to make school
16 sponsored child care services available to teenage
17 parents to help them remain in school or to complete
18 their education if they have dropped out of school.
19 Child care slots not used by the children of students
20 may be used by the children of teachers or other
21 employees of the school. The service shall be free to
22 the children of students but school administrative
23 units may charge teachers and other employees a fee.
24 Parenting education and developmental training for
25 student parents is to be included as part of the
26 program.

27 The bill requires school administrative units
28 which provide child care services to offer a
29 one-semester course in parenting to secondary school
30 students.

31 The costs not covered by fees charged to teachers
32 or other employees with children enrolled in the
33 schools' child care services are subsidizable under
34 the School Finance Act of 1985.

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