

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 Services to revise its school funding formula and
2 provide a significant increase in the amount of
3 subsidy for statewide school operating and program
4 costs; and

5 Whereas, the effective date of this Act is July 1,
6 1988; and

7 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these
8 facts create an emergency within the meaning of the
9 Constitution of Maine and require the following
10 legislation as immediately necessary for the
11 preservation of the public peace, health and safety;
12 now, therefore,

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

15 **Sec. 1.** 20-A MRSA §15602, sub-§3 is enacted to
16 read:

17 3. Percentage. Effective 1989-90, the percentage
18 of the State's share of the operating cost allocation
19 on a statewide basis shall be no less than the
20 percentage of the State's share in 1988-89.

21 **Sec. 2.** 20-A MRSA §15605, sub-§3, as enacted by
22 PL 1983, c. 859, Pt. G, §§2 and 4, is repealed and the
23 following enacted in its place:

24 3. Guidelines for actual local operating and
25 program costs; updating. Effective 1988-89, the
26 commissioner's recommendation for actual local
27 operating and program costs adjusted, exclusive of bus
28 purchase costs, shall reflect changes in pupil
29 enrollment, economic factors, the average of the 2
30 most recent annual percentages of increase in
31 statewide operating and programs costs of school
32 administrative units and any other considerations
33 which effect a change in the costs of education. The
34 commissioner shall be conscious of the need for
35 prudent restraint in educational financing.

36 **Sec. 3.** 20-A MRSA §15613, sub-§§10 and 11, as
37 enacted by PL 1983, c. 859, Pt. G, §§2 and 4, are

1 repealed.

2 Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §15613, sub-§§12 and 13 are
3 enacted to read:

4 12. Hold harmless to maximize subsidy stability.
5 Effective in 1988-89, the following shall apply.

6 A. Each school administrative unit shall be
7 guaranteed a minimum state allocation for
8 operating costs that is 75% of that unit's state
9 allocation for operating costs during the previous
10 year. These funds shall be included as a part of
11 the total allocation.

12 B. All school administrative units that have
13 above average mills raised for education, below
14 state average income and above average poverty,
15 shall be held harmless at 90% of that unit's state
16 allocation for operating costs during the previous
17 year. These funds shall be included as part of
18 the total allocation.

19 13. Minimum state allocation. Effective 1988-89,
20 each school administrative unit shall be guaranteed a
21 minimum state share of its total allocation that is
22 determined by multiplying 5% of the foundation per
23 pupil operating rate by the average number of resident
24 kindergarten to grade 12 pupils, including special
25 education tuition pupils, in the unit on April 1st and
26 October 1st of the calendar year immediately prior to
27 the year of allocation. These funds shall be included
28 as part of the total allocation.

29 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency
30 cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect July
31 1, 1988.

32 STATEMENT OF FACT

33 This bill necessitates a General Fund
34 appropriation, which has been included in the

1 Governor's supplemental appropriation requests for the
2 fiscal 1988-89 biennium.

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