

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(AFTER DEADLINE)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 2512

H.P. 1835 House of Representatives, March 14, 1988

Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and
Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative KILKELLY of Wiscasset.

Cosponsored by Senator DOW of Kennebec, Representatives
NORTON of Winthrop and PARADIS of Frenchville.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 AN ACT to Increase the Appropriation to Municipal
2 School Districts for the Inspection and
3 Replacement of Unsafe School Buses.
4

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

7 Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §2017, as amended by PL 1979,
8 c. 691, § 22, is further amended by adding at the end
9 a new paragraph to read:

1 In addition to the inspection required by the
2 first paragraph of this section, any bus with a model
3 year of 1980 or later shall undergo a yearly safety
4 inspection to determine a safety rating value pursuant
5 to section 2017-A. The State shall reimburse for the
6 cost of the inspection the appropriate school
7 authorities or the owner.

8 Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §2017-A, sub-§§1 to 4 are
9 enacted read:

10 1. Safety rating system. The department shall
11 develop a school bus safety rating system which
12 evaluates seat height, seat back padding, chassis,
13 frame and roof strength and all other elements
14 required in a normal inspection procedure.

15 2. Compiling ratings. Each school shall be
16 responsible for compiling a rating for each bus which
17 that school uses. The school shall forward all rating
18 information to the department.

19 3. Priority list. The department shall maintain
20 a priority list of buses which need to be replaced
21 based on the ratings of the buses.

22 4. Formula. The department shall develop a
23 formula which combines the school funding formula and
24 the bus rating value to equal a percentage of
25 reimbursement due to the municipality which replaces a
26 bus. The formula shall be structured so that the more
27 unsafe a bus, the higher the rating and the greater
28 the percentage of reimbursement.

29 Sec. 3. Appropriation. The following funds are
30 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the
31 purposes of this Act.

32 1988-89

33 EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL
34 SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

35 All Other \$ 12,500

1	Capital Expenditures	10,000,000
2		
3	Total	<u>\$10,012,500</u>

4 Funds to provide money
5 to inspect 250 buses
6 and to purchase new
7 buses through a
8 percentage
9 reimbursement system.

10 STATEMENT OF FACT

11 This bill provides funding to municipal school
12 districts for the inspection and replacement of unsafe
13 pre-1980 school buses. The department will develop a
14 safety rating that address seat height, seat back
15 padding, chassis, frame and roof strength, as well as
16 the normal inspection procedure. Rating information
17 will be forwarded by the school to the department
18 which will maintain a priority list of unsafe buses
19 based on this data. A formula will be developed that
20 combines the school funding formula plus bus rating to
21 equal the percentage of reimbursement. The more
22 unsafe the bus the higher the rating and the greater
23 the incentive for schools to replace them.

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