

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 600

H.P. 435

House of Representatives, March 6, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

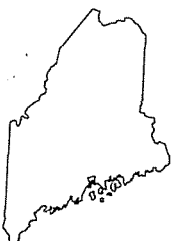
Presented by Representative MacBRIDE of Presque Isle.

Cosponsored by Representative CROWLEY of Stockton Springs, Representative SMALL of Bath and Representative KILKELLY of Wiscasset.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Encourage School Attendance.



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

3 20-A MRSA §5154 is enacted to read:

5 §5154 Dropout prevention grants

7 The department shall administer a grant program to encourage
9 high schools to reduce their truancy and dropout rates.

11 1. Grants. Grants of \$3,000 shall be awarded each year to
13 any school administrative unit in which the high school dropout
15 rate declined by at least one percent in the preceding school
17 year as compared to the rate in the year previous to that year.
19 Units which reduce their high school dropout rate by more than
21 one percent shall be awarded an additional \$500 grant for each
23 additional full percentage point reduction in the dropout rate.
25 Units in which the dropout rate is zero shall receive a grant of
27 \$3,000 for each year in which they maintain that level.

21 2.Use. Grants awarded under this section shall be used only
23 for educational programming costs as determined by the school
25 administrative unit.

27 3. Administration. The department shall distribute the
29 grants to school administrative units by November 1st each year
31 and may adopt rules necessary to implement this section.

33 STATEMENT OF FACT

35 This bill establishes a system of grants to be awarded to
37 school units which lower their high school dropout rate or
39 maintain a current dropout rate of zero percent. The grants
41 provide an incentive for local units to develop dropout reduction
43 programs based on their needs and resources. The program will
reward units which make a greater effort and are more successful
with larger grants. The grants program is to be administered by
the Department of Educational and Cultural Services.

The purpose of the bill is to encourage school units to take
steps to reduce the incidence of truancy, increase school
attendance and graduation rates, and to encourage esteem among
students.