



## 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1023

H.P. 740

House of Representatives, April 4, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

Sd Part

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative ANTHONY of South Portland. Cosponsored by Representative CROWLEY of Stockton Springs, Representative MAYO of Thomaston and Senator CAHILL of Sagadahoc.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Provide Reimbursement to Municipalities for Most Costs of Special Education.

1	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
3	Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15603, sub-§22, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 859, Pt. G, §§ 2 and 4, is amended to read:
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7	A. The <u>Twenty-five percent of the</u> salary and benefit costs of certified professionals, assistants and aides or persons contracted to perform a special education service;
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11	Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA $15612$ , first $\$ , as amended by PL 1987, c. 853, $1$ and 2, is further amended to read:
13	Adjustments to the state share of the foundation allocation shall be made as allowed in subsections 1 to 4 <u>and subsection 11</u>
15	regardless of the amount raised for its local share of the
	foundation allocation for operating costs.
17	Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §15612, sub-§11 is enacted to read:
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	11. Special education salary adjustment. A school
21	administrative unit shall be reimbursed for 75% of the salary and
23	<u>benefit and contracted service costs of certified professionals,</u> assistants and aides or persons employed or contracted to perform
	a special education service.
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	STATEMENT OF FACT
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31	Currently, the principal expenses for special education, other than for out-of-district placements, are paid for by each
Эт	school district and are partially reimbursed by the State under
33	the general education funding formula.
35	Under this bill, 75% of these expenses would be directly
37	reimbursed by the State. The remaining 25% would be included with other education expenses for partial reimbursement under the
57	general education funding formula.
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	This would substantially increase state support for special
41	education services. It would allow towns to prepare more accurate projections of school expenses regardless of the number
43	of special education students in that town. It would also
	provide property tax relief to every municipality that has one or
45	more special education students.