

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 1990

Legislative Document

No. 2218

H.P. 1605

House of Representatives, January 24, 1990

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 BEGLEY of Waldoboro.

Cosponsored by Senator HOLLOWAY of Lincoln, Representative KILKELLY of Wiscasset and Senator ESTES of York.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

**An Act to Require School Transportation for High School Students.**



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

20-A MRSA §5401, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

1. **Municipal school units.** The superintendent of schools in a municipal school unit shall, with the approval of the school board, provide transportation for elementary school students a part of or the whole distance to and from the nearest suitable elementary school. The municipality may provide transportation for secondary level students, provided that, if the municipality is a member of a school union, the municipality shall provide transportation for secondary school students a part or the whole distance to the nearest suitable secondary school.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

There are 3 types of "school administrative units": "school administrative districts" and "community school districts," each composed of 2 or more municipalities, and "municipal school units," belonging to a single municipality. Several municipal school units may join in a "school union" for the purpose only of sharing administrative personnel.

Current law requires school administrative districts and community school districts to provide transportation to and from school for both elementary and secondary school students. Municipal school units are only required to provide transportation for elementary school students. Secondary school students in rural communities that belong to school unions often have difficulty finding transportation to and from school. This bill requires municipalities that are members of school unions to provide transportation for secondary school students as well as for elementary school students.