

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

---

Legislative Document

No. 1856

H.P. 1286

House of Representatives, May 14, 1991

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 AULT of Wayne.  
Cosponsored by Senator CAHILL of Sagadahoc.

---

STATE OF MAINE

---

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

---

An Act Regarding the Parents as Teachers Program.

---

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

4 Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA c. 203, sub-c. III is enacted to read:

6 SUBCHAPTER III

8 PARENTS AS TEACHERS PROGRAMS

10 §4261. Programs

12 This subchapter authorizes school administrative units to  
14 develop programs to encourage the involvement of parents as their  
16 children's first and most important teachers. In developing the  
18 initiatives, school administrative units are encouraged to place  
20 an increased emphasis on developmental screening with ongoing  
22 periodic evaluation of developmental programs to measure the  
progress of children under 5 years of age and to determine  
problems or potential problems or advanced ability in the areas  
of understanding and use of language, perception through sight,  
perception through hearing, motor development and hand and eye  
coordination, health and physical development.

24 The programs that school administrative units may elect to  
26 develop may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the  
28 following:

30 1. Home visits. Visits to participants' homes by certified  
32 parent educators trained in child development to create an  
34 individualized program for each child and family;

36 2. Prenatal services. Providing information and guidance  
38 to help expectant parents prepare for the birth of their child  
40 and for the adjustment of having a new baby in their home;

42 3. Developmental information. To help parents respond  
44 effectively to their children's needs, providing information on  
46 what to expect from a child at each stage of development;

48 4. Screening. Offering periodic screening to check a  
50 child's educational sensory development. Screening includes  
52 vision and hearing tests; and

5. Group meetings. Providing group meetings designed to  
help parents share experiences, gain new insights to their  
child's development and behavior and discuss topics of mutual  
interest and concern with other parents.

§4262. Grants for local parents as teachers programs

School administrative units choosing to develop parents as  
teachers programs shall submit plan proposals for approval to the  
department. The department shall encourage broad participation  
in the grant programs under section 4263 and shall provide

2 technical assistance to school administrative units in submitting  
4 proposals. The department shall monitor the implementation of  
6 the plans and evaluate their effectiveness before the excess  
8 costs may be included as allowable costs under section 4264.

6 **§4263. Model program grants**

8 1. Establishment of program. The department shall  
10 establish and monitor a competitive grant program for model  
12 parents as teachers programs, designed to serve as demonstration  
14 and training sites. In awarding grants for model programs, the  
16 commissioner shall ensure geographic distribution of program  
18 sites. The department shall develop models to be tested based on  
20 assessment of regional parents as teachers program needs. School  
22 administrative units or those units in association with other  
24 service providers may apply for grants. A grant under this  
26 section may not exceed \$40,000.

18 2. Application; coordination. School administrative units  
20 that apply for these grants must, at a minimum, coordinate the  
22 application with the local Head Start program. The application  
24 must:

24 A. Identify how resources will be shared and activities  
26 coordinated between the public school and other community  
28 providers and resources;

28 B. Identify the process for coordination with other service  
30 providers, both public and private; and

30 C. Provide for the establishment of an advisory committee  
32 for the project.

34 3. Training. Training provided at the model program site  
36 must be made available to public school staff and other community  
38 providers and resources program staff. Provision may be made for  
40 other service providers to participate in the training.

38 4. Rulemaking. The department shall adopt rules  
40 establishing the criteria upon which grants are awarded under  
42 this section.

42 **§4264. Funding**

44 1. Allowable costs. Allowable costs are the cost of  
46 implementing approved plans.

48 2. First and 2nd years. Allowable costs in the first and  
50 2nd years must be funded through a grant made from funds  
appropriated for that purpose.

3. Third and subsequent years. For a plan that has been evaluated as effective by the department, allowable costs may be added to the school unit's subsidized cost under chapter 606.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1991-92	1992-93
<b>EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF</b>		
<b>Parents as Teachers</b>		
Positions - Legislative Count		(2.0)
Personal Services		\$80,000
All Other	\$25,000	900,000
Capital Expenditures		10,000
Provides for the appropriation of funds for the implementation of the parents as teachers program including the establishment of 2 positions and 15 pilot training sites in fiscal year 1992-93.		
<b>DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$25,000</u>	<u>\$990,000</u>

### STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill encourages parents as teachers programs, a genuine and early broad-based partnership between schools and families encouraging an even start for children at an early age. A program may provide parent education services to parents of children zero to 4 years of age, including home visits to guide children's development, parent group meetings and periodic screening of children in conjunction with other existing services.

This bill provides for 2 parent educators and one administrator per region. Parent educators will be trained through the National Center for Parents as Teachers in Missouri during 1992 and a minimum of 15 local program grants will be available in fiscal year 1992-93.