

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 897

H.P. 659

House of Representatives, March 15, 1993

An Act to Amend the School Finance Act of 1985.

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ANDERSON of Woodland, BAILEY of Farmington, CATHCART of Orono, CLEMENT of Clinton, CLUKEY of Houlton, COFFMAN of Old Town, DONNELLY of Presque Isle, DRISCOLL of Calais, JOY of Island Falls, KNEELAND of Easton, MURPHY of Berwick, PINETTE of Fort Kent, REED of Dexter, ROTONDI of Athens, STROUT of Corinth, TUFTS of Stockton Springs, VIGUE of Winslow, Senators: GOULD of Waldo, KIEFFER of Aroostook, LUDWIG of Aroostook, PARADIS of Aroostook.

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15610, sub-§1, ¶G is enacted to read:

G. If the Legislature maintains, reduces or increases the appropriation for the state share of the foundation allocation or the debt service from the prior year or from the commissioner's recommended funding level, the commissioner shall implement the appropriation by calculating each school administrative unit's entitlement to the state subsidy solely as provided for in the School Finance Act of 1985, including, but not limited to, those calculations contained in sections 15608 to 15613.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15612, sub-§15 is enacted to read:

15. Federal Impact Aid Act adjustment; retroactive reimbursement for fiscal years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93. To ensure that the State continues to receive federal aid to which it is entitled pursuant to the federal Impact Aid Act, 20 United States Code, Section 236 et seq. and to comply with the wealth neutrality test as defined at 34 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 222.64, the commissioner is directed to make whatever adjustments are necessary, including, but not limited to, the retroactive reallocation of school administrative units' entitlement to the state subsidies for fiscal years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purposes of this bill are:

1. To remedy the inequitable allocation of the state subsidy for all school administrative units during fiscal years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93;

2. To prevent straight percentage implementations of disbursements of the state subsidy to school administrative units in any manner other than as provided by the School Finance Act of 1985; and

3. To comply with the wealth neutrality test of the federal Impact Aid Act, 20 United States Code, Section 236 et seq. so that the State continues to receive federal aid to which it is entitled under the federal Impact Aid Act.