

# 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)



# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

---

Legislative Document

No. 894

---

S.P. 313

In Senate, March 21, 1995

---

### An Act to Provide Funding for Homeless Students.

---

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BEGLEY of Lincoln.  
Cosponsored by Senators: ABROMSON of Cumberland, SMALL of Sagadahoc,  
Representatives: AULT of Wayne, CAMERON of Rumford, VIGUE of Winslow.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15613, sub-§16** is enacted to read:

6 16. Tuition for homeless students. Beginning with school  
8 year 1996-97, each school administrative unit or private school  
10 approved for tuition purposes is guaranteed an amount equal to  
12 the approved tuition rate for the school unit or private school  
14 for each homeless student in attendance, prorated by the amount  
16 of time in attendance. Payment must be made during the year of  
attendance. The commissioner shall provide funding by reducing  
the state share of the total allocation for operating costs by  
the amount required to provide this funding and increasing the  
local share of the total allocation for operating costs by the  
same amount. The commissioner may adopt rules to implement this  
subsection.

18 The department shall create a nonlapsing, interest-earning,  
20 revolving fund to carry out the purposes of this subsection. Any  
22 unexpended balance in the fund may not lapse but must be carried  
forward. Money allocated to this fund and interest earned on  
unexpended funds must be used for the purposes of this subsection.

24 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

26  
28 This bill requires the State to provide funding for a  
30 homeless student's education costs and establishes the  
32 reimbursement rate as the tuition rate at the school as prorated  
34 by the amount of time in attendance for each student. This bill  
36 also directs the Department of Education to establish a  
nonlapsing, interest-earning revolving fund to finance homeless  
students' education costs. Funding must be accomplished by  
reducing the state share of the total allocation for operating  
costs statewide and increasing the local share of the total  
allocation for operating costs statewide by an amount equal to  
the cost of educating all Maine homeless students.