

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 854

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H.P. 629

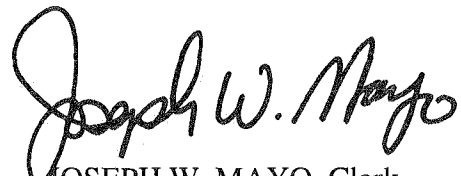
House of Representatives, February 6, 1997

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### **An Act Regarding the Obligation of the State to Fund Adult Education.**

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

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BERRY of Belmont.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAKER of Dixfield, McELROY of Unity, POWERS of Rockport.

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

**Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §8606-A, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 368, Pt. C, §1, is further amended to read:

**3. State reimbursement.** State reimbursement for expenditures on adult education programs must be based on each unit's actual adult education program costs in the foundation year, ~~except that in fiscal years 1991-92 and 1992-93 available state funding is limited to the fiscal year 1990-91 level, and in fiscal years 1995-96 and 1996-97 available state funding is limited to the fiscal year 1994-95 level.~~

A. The state reimbursement must be based on the unit's expenditures for the foundation year in accordance with the maximum allowable expenditures and the local program cost adjustment to the equivalent of the year prior to the year of the allocation.

B. State reimbursement must be paid to each eligible unit during the 2nd quarter of the State's fiscal year.

**Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §8606-A, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 518, §38, is further amended to read:

**4. Action by Legislature.** The Except as provided in paragraph A, the Legislature shall appropriate the necessary funds to meet the State's obligation for reimbursement of adult education program costs as provided in this section.

A. Recognizing that full funding of the State's obligation under this section has not been appropriated in recent years, the Legislature shall restore full funding of the State's obligation for reimbursement of adult education program costs as provided in this paragraph. Beginning in fiscal year 1997-98 and continuing through fiscal year 2000-01, the percentage of the amount of funding required under this section that is appropriated each year will be increased from the prior year's level by an equal percentage until the full share of the State's obligation is funded. Beginning in fiscal year 2000-01 and in each succeeding year, the Legislature shall appropriate the full share of the State's obligation as determined under this section.

**SUMMARY**

This bill directs the Legislature to restore full funding of the State's obligation under the adult education law. It establishes a 4-year period to attain full funding and requires full funding each year after that time.