

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 1895

H.P. 1344

House of Representatives, May 28, 1997

**Resolve, to Direct the State Board of Education to Study the School  
Funding Formula.**

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Reported by Representative RICHARD for the Joint Standing Committee on Education  
and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Joint Order H.P. 1332.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

**Sec. 1. Committee to study school funding formula. Resolved:** That  
the State Board of Education shall establish a committee to study  
the school funding formula. The state board shall appoint 10  
members to the committee, and the committee shall also coordinate  
its work with the state board committee studying essential  
programs and services. Each member appointed must be impartial  
and have extensive knowledge of public education and school  
finance policies in the State. In appointing members to the  
committee, the state board shall give proper consideration to  
achieving statewide geographical representation, representing the  
diverse range of interests in public education in this State and  
identifying individuals with the willingness and ability to make  
the necessary commitment to the committee; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Duties. Resolved:** That the committee of the State  
Board of Education established in section 1 shall:

1. Review and make recommendations regarding the report  
presented by the Commissioner of Education to the Joint Standing  
Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs related to the  
current methods used to calculate the income and cost-of-living  
adjustment factors. The State Board of Education shall submit  
its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than  
January 1, 1998; and

2. Review the essential programs and services plan  
presented by the State Board of Education, pursuant to Public Law  
1997, chapter 24, Part X, section 1, to the Joint Standing  
Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs for the purpose of  
developing an adequate and equitable method to fund essential  
programs and services. The state board committee shall submit  
its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than  
January 15, 1999. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and  
Cultural Affairs may report out a bill based on the state board  
recommendations; and be it further

**Sec. 3. Staffing and research assistance. Resolved:** That, if  
necessary, the State Board of Education may request staffing  
assistance from the Department of Education and research  
assistance from the Education Research Institute Steering  
Committee.

#### FISCAL NOTE

The additional costs associated with establishing a  
committee to study the school funding formula can be absorbed by  
the State Board of Education utilizing existing budgeted  
resources.

