

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. O. S.

L.D. 1802

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DATE: April 30, 1999

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 635, L.D. 1802, Bill, "An Act to Restore the Distribution Formula Between Private and Public Colleges within the Maine Student Incentive Scholarship Program"

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the cost of higher education is a deterrent to students who seek a higher education; and

Whereas, making higher education accessible is necessary to increase the aspirations of Maine students; and

Whereas, there is an immediate need to ensure that students demonstrating financial need have access to sufficient amounts of financial assistance; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, '

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §11614, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1997, c. 643, Pt. HH, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

2. Minimum amount. It is the intent of the Legislature that scholarships awarded under this chapter, except as provided in subsections 4, 5 and 6, may not be less than: \$1,000 for students attending public institutions of higher education within the State; \$1,250 for students attending private institutions of higher education within the State; \$500 for students attending public institutions of higher education outside the State; and \$1,000 for students attending private institutions of higher education outside the State. Amounts less than the minimum amounts required by this subsection may be awarded to meet needs as determined under section 11613. The authority may not grant awards of less than \$200 to a full-time student. A scholarship received by a student under this chapter may not be applied to reduce institutional or other grant aid to that student.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

·FISCAL NOTE

This bill establishes varying minimum scholarship amounts available under the Maine Student Incentive Scholarship Program. While the dollar amount of scholarship awards to individuals may change, it is expected that the same number of students will continue to receive scholarships.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the original bill. Under this amendment, the minimum amount requirement of the Maine Student Incentive Scholarship Program is repealed and replaced with a minimum award provision that establishes a differential rate for minimum scholarship amounts that are based on the status of the higher education institution where the eligible student is enrolled. The varying minimum award amounts under the Maine Student Incentive Scholarship Program must be determined as follows:

1. One thousand dollars for students attending public institutions of higher education within the State;

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2 2. One thousand, two hundred and fifty dollars for students
attending private institutions of higher education within the
4 State;

6 3. Five hundred dollars for students attending public
institutions of higher education outside the State; and

8
10 4. One thousand dollars for students attending private
institutions of higher education outside the State.

12 The amendment adds an emergency preamble and clause to the
bill. It also adds a fiscal note.