

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M

L.D. 300

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DATE: *March 29, 2001*

(Filing No. S- *32*)

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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SENATE AMENDMENT "*H*" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 256, L.D. 300, Bill, "An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2002 and June 30, 2003"

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Amend the amendment by inserting after Part Y the following:

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PART Z

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Sec. Z-1. Second tier cushion in fiscal year 2001-02. The following 2nd tier cushion is established for fiscal year 2001-02.

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A school administrative unit is eligible for a prorated share of the 2nd tier cushion of \$1,000,000 if the school administrative unit meets the following criteria:

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1. The school administrative unit has a per pupil valuation less than \$400,000;

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2. The school administrative unit is losing pupils; and

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3. The school administrative unit's State share of subsidy for fiscal year 2001-02 for operating costs and program costs excluding the state share of bus purchases plus minimum subsidy is less than the school administrative unit's State share of subsidy for fiscal year 2000-01 for operating costs and program costs excluding the State share of bus purchases plus minimum subsidy and the 2000-01 cushion provision.

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Sec. Z-2. Transfer of unobligated balance of general purpose aid.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, at the close of fiscal year 2000-01 following the end of that fiscal year, the State Controller shall transfer any unobligated balance in the general purpose aid for local schools to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund up to the amount of \$1,000,000.

Sec. Z-3. Transfer of unobligated balance of Maine Rainy Day Fund.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, at the close of fiscal year 2000-01 following the end of that fiscal year, the State Controller shall transfer any unobligated balance in the Maine Rainy Day Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund up to the amount of \$1,000,000.

Sec. Z-4. Limitation of General Fund transfers.

The aggregate amount of transfer of General Fund available balances in sections 2 and 3 of this Part may not exceed 1,000,000.

Sec. Z-5. Implementing language.

Notwithstanding Part C of this Act, within 30 days of enactment of this Act, the Department of Education shall submit implementing language to the Legislature making changes to Part C necessitated by this Part.

Sec. Z-6. Appropriation.

The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Part.

2001-02

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF

**General Purpose Aid for
Local Schools**

All Other	\$1,000,000
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Provides funding for a 2nd tier of cushion funding to assist school administrative units with low valuation that are losing pupils. Notwithstanding the language in Part C, the department may distribute additional amounts to local school administrative units.'

Further amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

FISCAL NOTE

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This amendment will increase the General Fund cost of the
bill by \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2001-02 for the 2nd tier of a
cushion and transfers up to \$1,000,000 from the unobligated
balances of the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program or
up to \$1,000,000 from the Maine Rainy Day Fund to unappropriated
surplus in the General Fund. Based on the estimated year-ending
balances, this amendment maintains a balanced General Fund budget.

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SUMMARY

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This amendment provides funding for a 2nd tier of cushion
funding for general purpose aid for local schools. This
amendment also provides for the transfer of unobligated balances
from general purpose aid for local schools and the Maine Rainy
Day Fund to the General Fund.

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SPONSORED BY: 

(Senator MARTIN)

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COUNTY: Aroostook

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